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Where boys bathe Barbies

Family Matters, Page 9



Al Gore's moment of truth

Page 6



Phillies blast Mets

Sports, Page 16

Index

Arts & Entertainment	18
Business	11
Crossword	19
Movies/TV	19
Opinion	8
Sports	15

Talks under way for return of Ilya's remains

By MARGOT DUDKEWITZ

Negotiations for the return of the remains of Third Petty Officer Itamar Ilya, the naval commando who yesterday was officially declared killed in action, appear to be under way. International Red Cross officials have reportedly forwarded a message on the matter from Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

Netanyahu's spokesman, Shai Bazak, refused to comment on the reports.

Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah has said he would be willing to undertake negotiations for a swap of prisoners held by the South Lebanese Army and Israel in exchange for Ilya's remains.

Red Cross representative Jean Jacques Farser met with Hariri yesterday afternoon and reportedly handed him a letter from Netanyahu. In a televised interview, Farser told reporters: "This issue is dignity. You must try and avoid pictures shown in the media recently. I advise using one

channel for the negotiations and your prime minister has agreed, otherwise it becomes too muddling."

Farser predicted the negotiations would take some time. He said he had met with Nasrallah the day before, but refused to discuss the meeting.

Meanwhile, IDF Spokesman Brig.-Gen. Oded Ben-Ami lashed out at recent media reports on the inquiry into last Friday's unsuccessful commando raid in Lebanon, saying the reports were disrespectful to those who lost

their lives. He denied that the media have the right to publish speculations regarding the inquiry, some of which might have been leaked by IDF officers. "I find it hard to believe that any IDF officers would leak highly classified information and I condemn such acts, but the media cannot carry out their own investigation," he said. "Once the inquiry is completed and the findings are published, then it will be legitimate for the media to speculate or to question the findings."

During a visit to an IDF base, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai told reporters that, in a meeting two days ago with Netanyahu and Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, naval commandos asked to be allowed to continue carrying out missions. "They are our warriors," he said.

Chief Chaplain Maj.-Gen. Gad Navon yesterday formally declared Ilya a casualty whose burial place is unknown. He issued his determination after studying the report of the raid

and receiving the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee's declaration that a condition of national emergency existed at the time of the raid. This brings the official toll of those killed to 12.

Also yesterday, the Grapes of Wrath monitoring committee received Israel's protest regarding the Hizbullah attack on an IDF outpost that resulted in the death of Nahal Lt. Avraham Bok on Sunday. Israel claimed that the deadly mortar rounds had been fired from a nearby village and

screened video footage to prove this. The committee demanded that Lebanon prevent violations of the agreement and take steps to ensure that Hizbullah does not fire from populated areas. The committee rejected Lebanese claims regarding last week's commando raid, affirming that its objective was purely a military target. However, the committee stressed that Israel must seek to prevent civilian casualties in the future.

Hariri says peace possible in 3 months

Report: Arad holds secret talks in London

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's political adviser Uzi Arad held "secret talks" in London Monday night that apparently focused on resuming peace talks with Syria, Israel Radio reported last night.

A spokesman for Netanyahu declined to comment on the report.

Golan Heights leaders expressed fear that Netanyahu had passed a message to Syrian President Hafez Assad indicating a willingness to make concessions on the Golan. They noted that if this is the case, it would contradict express promises Netanyahu had made to them two months ago.

Meanwhile, Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri said that Israel can reach peace with Syria and Lebanon in three months if it is ready to give up territory.

"I am calling for the Israeli government to reconsider its policies and to come back to the table and to discuss real peace and to put in their mind that they have to withdraw from the whole Arab territory," Hariri said in an interview with Reuters television.

"Peace is very close," Hariri said. "We can finish an agreement in three months between Lebanon, Syria, and Israel if there is a real and fundamental decision from Israel to live in peace in the region."

"With all my heart I hope that they reconsider their policy and get back to the table and continue the negotiations and finalize [a peace agreement] as soon as possible," he said.

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is scheduled to visit Damascus. It was unclear if Lebanon would be added to the itinerary, but Hariri, leaving today for an official visit to France, said he would return if she included a stop in Lebanon.

Hariri would not say what Lebanon would do if Israel unilaterally pulled out its forces, saying the focus had to remain on the need for a broad Middle East peace settlement.

"Israeli security cannot be assured without peace in the region - everybody is saying the same, all the leaders in the world, all the leaders who are very close friends of Israel," he said. "Security is the result of political agreements; you cannot achieve security by force."

Bashero Tsar adds: President Ezer Weizman reiterated yesterday that the only country that can restore order in Lebanon is Syria "and those who say that we should withdraw [unilaterally] in order to reach an agreement do not, in my opinion, understand the matter."

(News agencies)



US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright waves yesterday at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland as she boards the plane bringing her to the Middle East. (AP)

Cabinet okays budget cuts

By DAVID HARRIS

The cabinet yesterday approved the Treasury-proposed NIS 2.3 billion cut to the 1998 state budget, by a vote of 11-6 with one abstention.

During the 18-hour debate, there were times when a majority threatened to vote against the Treasury, which had received the full backing of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy abstained. Those who voted against the cuts - Eli Suissa (Interior), Eli Yishai (Labor and Social Affairs), Tzahi Hammer (Justice), Zevulun Hammer (Education), Yehoshua Matza (Health), and David Levy (Foreign Affairs) - spent much of the day attacking the cuts both in the Knesset and in media interviews.

Yishai, Hammer, David Levy, and Matza were particularly outspoken, accusing Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman of betraying the disadvantaged.

"This is a budget which is cut off from the social reality," said Levy. "It ignores what we call the social disaster and that's unemployment."

Hammer said he has no doubt the budget the Knesset eventually passes will be substantially different from the one the cabinet approved, saying that to assure a majority, it will have to forget about cutting the education, welfare, and health budgets. Netanyahu rejected the claims

that the cuts will affect the poor.

"Those who claim this are not objective and not accurate," he said after the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee meeting. "The fact is that unless we cut the budget and pull this nation out of its enormous overdraft, there will be many more poor and the lot of the poor will be far more difficult."

He said the brunt of the impact will be felt by the wealthiest 30 percent of the population.

While the Treasury proposals were mostly approved, there were certain changes:

- The education budget will be cut by NIS 250 million as proposed, but Hammer will decide where the cuts should be made, rather than accepting Treasury recommendations.

- All proposals for reforming health services were approved with one exception - there will be ongoing dialogue between the Treasury and Health Ministry over the size of government funding for the basket of health services.

- Details are scheduled to be released today on smaller compromises in other ministries, including Immigration and Absorption, Industry and Trade, and Agriculture.

- Defense spending will be cut by NIS 400m., rather than the initially suggested NIS 550m. But Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who voted for the budget, insisted there would be no real cut in defense spending. Instead, the ministry would sell off assets, and the proceeds from the sales would be used to strengthen and refit the IDF, some of whose systems have not been replaced since the Yom Kippur War.

The cabinet also approved plans to reduce the child allowances to families with less than four children, whose head has a gross income of more than NIS 7,000 a month, and to demand national insurance payments from people working beyond the legal retirement age.

Immediately after the cabinet vote, Neeman told reporters he would not be drawn out on the fight that lies ahead in the Knesset.

But it is already clear that the budget will be roundly challenged, with MKs from Geshet, the Likud, Shas, and the National Religious Party all expressing concern about a variety of the proposals. For the opposition, former finance minister Avraham Shohat described the package of cuts as "the worst possible, a budget of economic slowdown, and socially harmful, with no chance of passing in its present format."

The Histadrut attacked the cabinet's approval of the cuts, with Chairman Amir Peretz calling the 3 a.m. vote and its build-up "the great night of robbing the workers."

The labor federation intends to step up industrial action against the measures today as local authority employees hold sanctions.

Sarah Honig contributed to this report.

PM: No US pressure on us

By SARAH HONIG

"No pressure is being exerted on Israel" in connection with the visit of US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu told reporters yesterday.

Albright is due to land this morning and spend the next three days before visiting Syria.

"We are not operating in a framework of pressure," Netanyahu said. "So far as Israel is concerned what is at stake are the most basic existential issues and the US fully comprehends that this is the case."

He also dismissed suggestions that Albright may go over her head and address the Israeli people directly.

"The situation is quite the reverse. She is a very welcome guest and is invited to say what she has to say. We are allies, and it is most natural, logical, and desirable that she speak to the Israeli people," he said.

Some around Netanyahu seek to exude a spirit of optimism, saying that more than at any time in the past the US understands the Israeli position, and that if there is to be any arm-twisting, it will be of Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's arm.

But the pessimists fear that to appear even-handed and because she knows the emphasis that Israel will place on Arafat's violations of every one of his undertakings over the past four years, Albright may seek to make demands on Israel as well. Thus, she is expected to request that Israel give the PA funds it is withholding.

Netanyahu yesterday held final consultations with his top advisers, with Foreign Minister David Levy and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, and with Ambassador to the US Elihu Ben-Elissar.

Albright is slated to meet with President Ezer Weizman, twice with Netanyahu, with Levy and Mordechai, with Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak, and with Arafat. She was due to have a single conversation with him, but following PA protests, she may see him an additional time.

Her plane is due to land at 6 this morning and she will be welcomed by Levy, who will get a chance to talk to her during the ride to Jerusalem. She will have breakfast with Weizman, then they will leave together to visit the wounded from the latest Jerusalem bombing at Hadassah-University Hospital, Mount Scopus.

Albright's first working session with Netanyahu will take place in the afternoon. They will be joined by Levy and Mordechai and a news conference will follow. Albright will visit Yad Vashem in the evening and then meet with Barak.

Tomorrow, she will meet with families of MIAs, breakfast with Leah Rabin, then lay a wreath at Yitzhak Rabin's grave. A meeting with Arafat will follow, then one with Netanyahu. In the evening, she will address Jerusalem high school students.

On Friday, Albright will return to the PA, then leave for Damascus at lunchtime.

Meretz and right-wing groups both plan to welcome Albright with placards along her route to Jerusalem this morning.

Reuters adds: Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa yesterday called on Israel to reconsider its stand on the peace process and asked Albright to help.

"The current Israeli policy doesn't lead us to a meaningful and fair settlement and it is clear for everybody that the continuation of these policies will lead to regression and this will only lead to a dangerous result," Moussa said.

"Israel is called upon to reconsider its policies. Mr. Netanyahu must be told in no uncertain terms, and especially by the US, that no one will allow him to blow the peace process."

Arafat meets Beilin, Page 2

"She's coming when there was violence [referring to bombings], but this is also a time when settlements and the provocation of Palestinians has become very frequent. Her main task is to deal with the situation and not from one aspect - security. She has to address the cure if she wants to help salvage the peace process," Moussa said.

Hillel Kuntler reports from Washington: The Washington Post yesterday came out in support of a Palestinian state, saying such a goal would help revitalize Israeli-Palestinian talks.

In its lead editorial, the paper criticized American policy for being centered on bringing Israel peace and security without trying to assure that the Palestinians achieve their main wish - statehood.

"In other words, the Israelis are asked to make concessions and promised what they most want, even while the Palestinians are asked to make concessions with no comparable assurance they will get what they most want," the editorial stated. "The remedy is obvious: The US should endorse the goal of Palestinian statehood.... The very statement of that goal could give the negotiation the impetus it now lacks."

Gov't to give Albright list of security demands

By MARGOT DUDKEWITZ

A list of Palestinian security commitments, compiled by the Government Press Office and published yesterday, will be given to US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright during her visit.

The list includes these points:

- The Palestinians have agreed to full and unconditional security cooperation; detention, arrest, and imprisonment of all terrorists previously released by the Palestinian Authority, according to lists submitted by Israel; dismissal of PA personnel involved in terror or violent acts against Israel (the Oslo 2 Agreement demands that those found guilty will immediately have their job terminated and their weapons and police identification documents confiscated).

- The PA must implement the security commitments specified in the Hebron Agreement, such as preventing Palestinian rioters entering areas under Israeli control, or attacking IDF forces stationed in the buffer zone that divides the H1 and H2 areas, the report said.

- Illegal firearms must be collected and confiscated, according to Oslo 2.

- All forms of incitement against Israel by PA officials must be stopped, and those who deliver inciting sermons in mosques must be dismissed and prosecuted.

- The PA must comply with the 33 extradition requests submitted to it, including the four suspects involved in terrorist attacks in which American citizens were killed.

- The Palestinian Police force, currently at 35,500, must be reduced to the number agreed upon, 24,000.

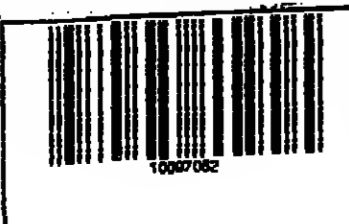
- The PA must submit a complete list of all recruits for review and approval.

So far the PA has only submitted 18,500 names.

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PM: Not our business who heads PA

By SARAH HONIG

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was unimpressed yesterday by reports that Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat considered resigning because of the impasse in the peace process.

The reports claimed that it was only after the entreaties of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein that Arafat relented reluctantly to remain in office.

"The fact is that this is none of our business," Netanyahu said after appearing before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

He argued that "Israel has no interest in influencing or determining who will head the PA. We have no desire to see a change there. It is no concern of ours and it is the decision of the Palestinians alone, just as it is no business of the Palestinians to influence who forms the government in Israel."

"Our task is not to deal with who leads the PA, but to demand that the PA lives up to its end of the bargain and it makes a credible effort to eradicate the terror hot-houses flourishing under its jurisdiction."

Netanyahu also did not buy the story that the PA has begun mass arrests of Islamic activists. "They picked up small fry in what is essentially a cosmetic touch up to pretty appearances prior to the arrival of the US secretary of state in the region."

"This hardly begins to deal with the terror infrastructure in the PA territories, which Arafat had not touched in the four years of the PA's existence. These so-called arrests - in the PA's best revolving door tradition - are just plain irrelevant."

Investigation of the Rehov Ben-Yehuda bombing, according to Netanyahu, "points unequivocally to the fact that

Hamas organized this outrage. This action would have been impossible were it not for the local infrastructure the terrorists could count on in PA territory... The basic problem is that Arafat made possible the creation of terrorist safe havens within a five-minute distance from most Israeli cities."

He noted that prior to the formation of the Likud government "there were 28 suicide bombings carried out without any connection to the state of the negotiations. This calumny that the diplomatic deadlock breeds terror must be exposed. The previous government gave the Palestinians all they wished, but the suicide bombers struck nevertheless. The reason is that the terrorists really want to destroy Israel. This situation demands steadfastness. If terror will be combated in earnest, there will be progress at the negotiating table as well."

Netanyahu also took on those who advocate immediate, unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon. "All these people are doing is encouraging Hizbullah and emboldening it to redouble its efforts to strike at us."

"I doubt there is anyone who wants to leave Lebanon more than I do. But this must be done under the proper conditions and with the best security provisions and safeguards. We will have achieved nothing if we pull back and then have to go back in again at a far greater cost in the lives of IDF soldiers."

"There are no easy solutions. We must take a deep breath and calm down."

Basheva Tsor adds:

Asked about reports that Arafat considered resigning, President Ezer Weizman said yesterday: "If this is true, I can understand Mubarak and Hussein. With all the anger against Arafat, he can bring better results than anyone else."

Arafat looks for Left's backing

PA chairman, Leah Rabin to sign Oslo reaffirmation

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Palestinian Authority chief Yasser Arafat tried to persuade left-wing Israeli politicians yesterday to speak out against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's policies toward the Palestinians during US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's visit.

"The political opposition in the Knesset has not made its voice clearly heard; that the Netanyahu government wants to destroy the peace and will be held responsible for it," a senior PA negotiator said. "We want the Labor Party and President Ezer Weizman to say their views on this in a clear voice."

At a meeting last night, Arafat and Labor Party MK Yossi Beilin agreed to mark the fourth anniversary of the Oslo Accords by having Arafat and Leah Rabin, widow of the late prime minister, sign a document reaffirming the commitment, Israel Radio said.

Arafat meets tomorrow and Friday with Albright in Ramallah. Higher Education Minister Hanan Ashrawi said the meetings wouldn't dwell only on security issues.

"We expect to deal with the political and economic and not just the security aspects," Ashrawi told the *Jerusalem Post*.

Ashrawi said that the PA would not reject Israel's call to start negotiations on the permanent status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, "but we also expect to see any discussion on permanent status talks maintain the agenda of what has already been agreed upon."

"What's the point of signing anything if the agreements are not honored? Frankly, nobody has any faith in this Israeli government," Ashrawi said.

She denied reports that Arafat offered to submit his resignation this week and that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak talked him out of it. "This is not true," she



Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat meets yesterday with Labor Party MK Yossi Beilin, an architect of the Oslo Accords signed four years ago.

said. "We are all rallying around him."

PA secretary-general Tayeh Abdul Rahim said in Ramallah yesterday that Israel has verified reports that the suicide bombers on Rehov Ben-Yehuda came from abroad. He accused Israel of refusing to acknowledge or share related information with the PA.

Abdul Rahim also said the PA would hand Albright a list of 20 Jewish organizations which allegedly waged terrorism against Arabs in the last year. The list was

drawn up in response to a list Netanyahu planned to submit regarding Palestinian commitments to fighting terrorism.

Palestinian Communications and Post Minister Imad Falouji warned that violence against Israel would continue unless it implemented the peace agreement.

"Netanyahu hasn't honored the peace process nor the peace agreements," Falouji told *Al Quds*. "He wants to enter into permanent agreements without going through the interim agreements. What can

be expected then from the Palestinian street?"

The PA arrested 12 more Hamas activists yesterday, bringing to 49 the number of arrests made since the Ben-Yehuda bombings, Palestinian sources said.

Hamas leader Abdul Aziz Rantisi protested the arrests as "a strong slap in the face of the national dialogue and Palestinian unity that we hoped would be achieved during our recent conference."

Palestinian sources said Arafat was being careful not to go over-

board in trying to show Washington he was fighting terrorism, for fear of provoking Hamas reprisals.

Abdul Rahim Mallouh, a leading activist in the dissident Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, called on the PA to reject requests for mass arrests.

"Our people have the right to struggle against the Israeli occupation," he said. "The American side is biased for Israel and we can't take US promises seriously any-how."

Barak calls on Netanyahu to resign

By DAVID HARRIS

During his period in office, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has proved he is incapable of fulfilling his election pledge of peace with security and as a result must resign, Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak demanded yesterday.

"Go home Netanyahu, resign," he called in opening a special Knesset debate on the security situation following last week's triple suicide-bombing in Jerusalem and a series of incidents in Lebanon.

Barak accused the government of destroying any hope for peace. "What do we see today?" he asked. "An absence of peace. There is terror and there's no hope."

With regard to Lebanon, Barak said there must not be a unilateral withdrawal of Israeli troops without an agreement with the Lebanese government.

Responding, Meir Sheerit (Likud) said the only alternative suggested by Labor is "a game of government and nothing more concrete. He called on Israel to remain bold and resolute in sticking to its security task. "Our role is not to give up," he said.

Sheerit, who heads the coalition in the Knesset, then turned attention to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Palestinian Authority

Chairman Yasser Arafat. "When Mubarak speaks with his people and Arafat with his, the language is different - it's not the language of peace."

Representing the government, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said Israel will fight terrorism wherever possible and using all available tools.

Mordechai suggested the timing of two recent terror attacks in Jerusalem was not coincidental. Both were preceded by the announcements of visits by US envoys, first special Mideast negotiator Dennis Ross and now Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

"What unites this House today is the fight against terror," said Mordechai. "Whoever wants to progress with us must prove he is prepared to fight terror."

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid responded by saying the recent tragedies are not the result of an unlucky birthright, but bad policies.

"[David] Ben-Gurion, [Levi] Eshkol, Golda [Meir], [Menachem] Begin, [Yitzhak] Shamir, [Shimon] Peres and the murdered Yitzhak Rabin - a list of fitting names, and what do we have now: the name Netanyahu," said Sarid, also demanding Netanyahu's resignation.

During a Labor faction meeting before the Knesset debate, a string of MKs renewed calls for the establishment of a national unity government. This will be the only salvation for the Oslo agreement, said Micha Goldman, Elie Goldschmidt said that, until now, he had been opposed to the idea, but in light of recent events this could be the time for a national unity government.

Acts of terrorism do not depend on the lifting or imposing of closures, but upon the terrorists themselves, said Yehuda Harel (The Third Way). He urged the government to cling tightly to the Oslo agreement and the additional agreement on Hebron.

The visit to the region of US Secretary of State Albright, to begin today, will achieve nothing, particularly in light of recent events, claimed Azmi Bishara (Hadash). He suggested that Albright comes to Israel with no new ideas.

Nissim Dahan (Shas), meanwhile, called for a spirit of national unity among the people. "While not objecting to public debate, Dahan said that now is the time for greater understanding within Israel."

"Before the session MKs stood for a minute's silence in memory of all those killed in recent days and Speaker Dan Tchepp, on behalf of the House, expressed condolences to the bereaved."

RETURNING TO THE LAND OF HER FOREFATHERS

IN CONTEXT / Elli Wohlgelehter

Returning to the land of her forefathers

Madeleine Albright arrived here today not only as the US secretary of state, on a political mission to put Middle East peace efforts back on track, but also in the context of her recently revealed Jewishness.

The story is no longer headline news, yet perhaps its final chapter is being written today: How will she feel as a new-found Jew, in the land of her biblical ancestors?

And how will Albright, a one-time Catholic and now Episcopalian, feel when she visits Yad Vashem, where the death of her own grandparents and six million others are remembered?

When the story of Albright's Jewish background broke on February 4 in *The Washington Post*, it made many Jews uncomfortable, and some angry.

First was the issue of her parents' conversion to Catholicism to hide their Jewishness. For thousands of years Jews had braved persecution to maintain their identity, often paying with their lives.

But Albright's parents, Josef and Mendula Korbel, took a path taken by many other Jews during the Holocaust, in an attempt to protect their children from horror and tragedy.

"One of the implications you can draw from the Shoah," says Efraim Zuroff, head of the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Israel office, "is just to cop out, forget it. Why suffer, why potentially suffer, why be a potential target of prosecution? Listen, they obviously had very little positive Jewish conscience."

When Albright was asked if she thought her parents made the right choice, to create a new identity for their children, she was quoted as saying: "I think my father and mother were the bravest people alive. They dealt with the most difficult decision anyone could make. I am incredibly grateful to them, and beyond measure."

Others took exception to her parents' decision. Jeff Jacoby, a columnist for the *Boston Globe* whose father's relatives died in Auschwitz, wrote that Albright's parents had failed.

"No. They avoided the difficult decision. They ran from it. They rejected their Jewishness and

betrayed their parents' memory, and spent a lifetime deceiving their daughter," he wrote.

This raises the second issue that bothers some Jews, namely, just how deceived was Albright?

In the original *Washington Post* article, she was quoted as saying that she found the new information "fairly compelling," but wanted to conduct her own research into her family and its fate. "Obviously it is a very personal matter for my family and brother and sister and my children," she said.

Albright then told *Newsweek* that she had been misquoted: "I was not surprised about my Jewish origin. What I was surprised about was that my grandparents died in concentration camps."

What followed were reams of newspaper copy, both in the secular and Jewish media, asking the old Watergate question: What did she know, and when did she know it? If she did know of her Jewish origins, why was it a secret until now? And if she wasn't clear on the story, how could this intelligent, politically savvy student of history not bother to find out?

Further evidence surfaced questioning Albright's version of the story, first regarding Albright's first cousin, Dagnar Simova, who had lived with Albright's family in London during the war, and was a main source for information on her Jewish past. Simova had apparently tried to make contact with Albright in recent years, but to no avail.

Then there was Petr Silar, the mayor of Letohrad, her father's hometown in the eastern Czech republic. Silar had written to Albright in February 1994, shortly after she became United Nations ambassador, telling her of her family's past and inviting her to visit. Two more letters followed, but Silar never heard from her until a few months ago, following a visit by Albright's brother and sister.

If Albright didn't know before, she certainly knows now. But what can she do with the knowledge? Can she or should she embrace a Jewish identity that was never hers?

"In a certain sense, her accepting a Jewish identity is almost a rejection of her parents, because her parents knowingly opted out," says Zuroff. "She didn't reject Judaism, she had

no clue she was Jewish."

But in the seven months since she "became" Jewish - in awareness, if not in practice - Albright has gone out in searching of that Jewish past. In July, on a working visit to Prague, Albright went back to the Pinkas Synagogue she had visited a year before, only this time she came to search for her grandparents' names on a list of 77,297 Czech and Slovak Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

"I did not know my own family story then," she said, in an emotional statement to reporters. "Tonight, I knew to look for those names. And their image will forever be seared into my heart."

"To the many values and many facets that make up who I am, I now add the knowledge that my grandparents and members of my family perished in the worst catastrophe in human history. So I leave here tonight with the certainty that this new part of my identity adds something stranger, sadder and richer to my life."

Last week, on a personal trip, Albright went to visit Letohrad and Kostelec, her mother's hometown, in search of her past.

Today she visits Yad Vashem.

Keren Hayesod - United Israel Appeal

The family of Keren Hayesod mourns the passing of

HANS BACHRACH

of Melbourne, Australia

A dedicated and generous Jew whose life was linked to promoting Judaism and assisting Jews in need

We extend our condolences to the family

Shlomo Hillel World Chairman **Moshe Gur** Director General

To mark the seventh day since the passing of

YOHANAN HILBURG

we will meet at his grave on Thursday, September 11, 1997, at 10 a.m. at the Gush Katif regional cemetery

The Hilburg family
Members of Nezer Hazani
Hof Azza Regional Council

PA raps bomb details ban

By MARGOT DUDKOVITCH

A Palestinian official yesterday lashed out against an Israeli order calling for a complete ban on the publication of details of last week's suicide bomb attack in the Jerusalem's Rehov Ben-Yehuda pedestrian mall last week.

Taib Abdel Rahim, an adviser to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, accused Israel of purposely concealing details to weaken and embarrass the PA.

Correction

The Page 1 headline in yesterday's paper should have referred to the Stern Group (Lchi) and not to Etzel (IZL).

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Tamara Barnea, International Development Program, IDC, will address the club.

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Arafat has the same virulent hatred of Jews!

MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE WITH US in front of the US Consulate in Jerusalem and at the US Embassy in Tel Aviv, to demand:

SAVE ISRAEL - STOP OSLO NOW!

Jerusalem: We are meeting in Menorah Garden (next to Hamashbir) at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, September 10, 1997 to march to the US Consulate on Rehov Agron

Tel Aviv: At 5 p.m., in front of the US Embassy on Rehov Hayarkon

Women in Green

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Experts warn against two-tier health system

By JUDY SIEGEL

A chorus of opposition to the government's decisions on the health budget was heard yesterday, with warnings that allowing the health funds to charge regressively for certain services — over and above existing health taxes based on income — would create separate health systems for the poor and the rich.

Kupat Holim Clalit director-general Dr. Yitzhak Peterburg said he is sorry "the government has decided to increase health taxes by allowing the insurers to charge members directly. Each health fund will decide what services it will give members, instead of a universal health basket set by the National Health Insurance Law."

Peterburg argued that the new plan — which won't go into effect without passage by the Knesset — would create "negative incentive" for the health funds to admit low-income members, because they won't be able to pay the extra fees.

The health funds would also have to revert to an independent collection system, which was abolished by the law, thereby creating needless new layers of bureaucracy that will only increase the health funds' deficits, he maintained.

Clalit also opposes the Treasury's intention of allowing the establishment of for-profit health funds. "This is a scandal," he said, "at a time when there is a NIS 1.3 billion deficit. The for-profit insurers will make money on the backs of the patients."

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza, who voted against the budget in the cabinet, will brief reporters in his office this afternoon.

The Israel Society for Patient's Rights said the government's proposals would cause great injustice to the poor. It urged the debate on the changes be moved from the Knesset Finance Committee to the Labor and Social Welfare Committee, which has a more positive attitude toward the disadvantaged.

Prof. Shlomo Mor-Yosef, director-general of Soroka Hospital in Beersheba, denounced the proposed changes, saying that they would "again make Clalit the health fund of the poor and Maccabi the health fund of the rich. Members will have the choice of how much health they can afford: care only in times of catastrophe, or preventive treatment and early diagnosis if they have the money to pay for it."

He added that usually, the ministry, the health funds, and other public bodies argue and differ on proposals, but "the unanimous opposition to the government's plans shows that something must be wrong with them."

Deputy Health Minister Shlomo Benizi is demanding that the ministry instruct all government hospitals to appoint additional kasrut inspectors — at a time when they are crying for money for medications, beds and equipment," he said.



Rabbinical justice

President Ezer Weizman yesterday hands Rabbi Shlomo Shapira his certificate of appointment as a rabbinical court judge, as court administrator Eli Ben-Dahan looks on. 'Hatred will get us nowhere and we can easily destroy everything we have labored to build up,' Weizman said in reference to the placing of a pig's head in a Moslem cemetery in Neshet. Seven new rabbinical court judges were sworn in at the Beit Hanassi ceremony.

(Efrain Kishchek)

NEWSLINE

with ELIEZER JAFFE

Eliezer Jaffe is a Hebrew University social work professor, and a founder of Zahavi, the Association of Large Families

The new budget reduces the child allowance for families with less than four children, whose head earns more than NIS 7,400 gross a month. How significant is this?

What we are witnessing is a process that eventually will lead to the child allowance being distributed not as part of the National Insurance Institute, but as welfare.

What's the difference? There's a big difference. The NII has "respectability." Welfare payments have a stigma, and are very much in the hands of social workers making decisions about eligibility and need.

How did the child allowance originate?

The allowance was established after the Wadi Salib riots in Haifa in the late 1950s. A Wadi Salib resident was shot by the police, and the people attributed it to oppression by the establishment against large families, poor people, and Sephardim.

A committee was set up to see who these people were, and what was going on. Most were from large, poor families, and it was decided that something was needed to alleviate their problems. The child allowance was then established.

One of the important decisions

was to give the money through the NII, something anchored in law, and not as welfare payments. The difference is that this way the payments cannot be changed every Monday and Thursday. This was a tremendous innovation, and pulled people out of poverty overnight.

What has happened over the years?

Two things. The amount did not keep up with the cost of living, and the Treasury began viewing the allowance as a welfare grant. There are two camps, one that maintains that all families should get it as a bonus, and another that believes it should only go to the needy. The argument has been going on for 40 years, and now we see that the second camp has won.

Now the allowance has been cut back, and the next step will be to do away with it entirely for families with less than four kids. We are in a post-socialist economy, and these things happen in a market economy.

Isn't there logic in the argument that higher income people do not need these allowances?

Sure, but there is also the view that if Israel wants more children, it has to show it. There is a myth that Israel wants children, wants a higher birth rate. But what steps have been taken? At least the child allowance was some kind of concrete gesture.

Herb Keison

Northern mayors threaten to resign

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Confrontation line mayors and council heads threatened to hand in their resignations on Sunday if the government continues to ignore their demands.

The leaders held an emergency meeting yesterday to discuss proposed budget cuts that will affect education, welfare, and municipal housing in their communities. They also complained that the government had reneged on commitments to give additional assistance to border areas.

According to Ma'lot-Tarshiha Mayor Shlomo Buhbut, head of the Forum of Heads of Confrontation Line Settlements, the government has refused to transfer funds agreed upon by the Peres government in 1996. "The former government agreed to transfer an additional NIS300 million a year to the communities for the years 1996, 1997, and 1998," Buhbut said. "We have only received part of those funds and in addition the government wants to introduce more budget cuts."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's spokesman, Shai Bazak, said yesterday that all the funds had been transferred to the communities.

"It is a shame that Bazak does not bother to check the facts," retorted Buhbut, adding that requests to meet with Netanyahu had been ignored. "If Netanyahu continues to ignore us, then we will have no alternative other than to resign and on October 1 all payments to suppliers and services will be stopped," Buhbut warned.

Ministry closure plans put on hold

By JUDY SIEGEL

Science Ministry staffers yesterday welcomed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to postpone by 45 days a scheduled discussion of Science Minister Michael Eitan's plans to close the ministry.

The premier agreed with the proposal by Deputy Defense Minister MK Silvan Shalom, who is due to take over the ministry in 10 months, to set up a professional committee to examine Eitan's proposal.

However, in a meeting with ministry employees yesterday,

Eitan said that the "ministry will close despite the prime minister's request to delay the process." The staffers, in a tense meeting, accused Eitan of "cynical use of your power to advance your political status."

Eitan, in turn, said the workers "have reason to worry" and "I don't see a solution to your problem."

Eitan demands that a statutory National Council for Research and Development be established, ministry staffers be fired, and that he remain science minister, working out of the Prime Minister's Office.

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Qatar prepares invitations to summit

Jerusalem Post Staff and agencies

Invitations to the highly contentious Middle East and North Africa (MENA) summit which Qatar plans to host in November will be sent out at the end of the month, despite mounting Arab pressure to push Israel out of the event, a senior Qatari official was quoted as saying.

Qatari newspapers quoted yesterday Mohammed Ibrahim Emadi, assistant coordinator general of the

summit, as saying the invitations would be sent to businessmen, companies, and government officials from more than 35 countries.

The Middle East economic conferences have been convening annually since their launch three years ago in Morocco. However, since then what first was hailed as an epitome of the Middle East peace process, has come to be seen by some as economic non-starter. Meanwhile, various Arab circles see in the forum a prize which the Arab world should not give Israel.

Saudi Arabia, the Palestinian Authority, and the United Arab Emirates have already announced they will boycott the summit if Israel is represented.

Still, Emadi had told reporters on Monday that Qatar is proceeding with the plans to host the summit on schedule.

Syria and Lebanon, which along with Iraq and Libya stayed away from the three previous MENA summits, have also said they would not attend.

Egypt, Jordan, and Morocco have

expressed hesitation about attending.

Saudi Arabia has urged Qatar to cancel the meeting, and Syria has called on other Arab states to join the boycott.

The annual event, which last year was held in Egypt, has until now been attended by Israel and most Arab states, as well as the region's major trade partners in the industrialized world.

The Qatari papers quoted a statement by the US Embassy in Doha as saying 100 American business-

men would attend the summit.

Emadi said the organizing committee had so far received applications from nearly 600 businessmen.

Emadi, who is an ambassador at Qatar's Foreign Ministry, was speaking to reporters after receiving 1.4 million Qatari riyals (\$384,000) from the state-owned Qatar General Petroleum Corp. as a contribution toward sponsoring the summit.

He said sponsorship contributions from the public and private sectors exceeded nine million riyals.

More Nixon tapes to be released

By GEORGE LARDNER Jr.

WASHINGTON - More Nixon White House tapes will be made public next month, but they're not going to include some recently declassified "abuse of power" segments.

The head of the National Archives, John W. Carlin, has nothing but praise for what he describes as the Nixon estate's cooperation on the forthcoming release of 154 hours of cabinet room conversations on October 16. In an internal memo to Archives officials, Carlin, who has been pressing to create a full-fledged presidential library in California for the late Richard M. Nixon, said the release of the cabinet room conversations is "noteworthy" in large part because after many years of litigation, "the Nixon estate is working with us to facilitate opening tapes to the public."

What Carlin didn't mention, critics point out, is the status of close to 200 scandal-tinted segments that were originally withheld from the public on national security grounds when Nixon's "abuse of governmental power" tapes were released last year.

According to informed sources, archivists in charge of Nixon's records at the National Archives facility in College Park, Md., had been planning to release these additional "abuse of power" segments, totaling about one hour, at the same time as the cabinet room conversations. Now, as a result of a legal reading by the Nixon estate, it appears it could take as much as four to five years before the snippets can all be made public.

"The declassification review is done," said University of Wisconsin historian Stanley Kutler, one of those who asked that the still-censored portions be made public. Archivists in charge of Nixon's records at College Park processed them under an executive order that President Clinton issued in 1995 to pare down the mountains of secrets in government files.

Another source, who asked not to be named, suggested that release is being delayed to keep the new "abuse of power" sections from overshadowing the cabinet room releases.

Asked about the now declassified segments of the "abuse of power" tapes, archives spokeswoman Susan Cooper said she could not "predict when we are going to be able to open" them.

She said the Nixon estate "has not reviewed that material yet." The cabinet room conversations are said to cover a wide variety of domestic and foreign policy topics with participants, including Nixon Cabinet members, White House staffers, members of the National Security Council, congressional leaders, presidential committees and commissions.

In his memo, a copy of which was obtained by *The Washington Post*, Carlin said the Nixon estate could have insisted on a laborious review of all the cabinet room tapes and lodged "item by item" objections.

Instead, he said, the estate "approved the release in its entirety." A lawyer for the Nixon estate, Scott L. Nelson, made clear Monday that the estate sees no need to rush on the remaining "abuse of power" segments. The tapes are being released under the terms of an intricate 1996 agreement that settled a lawsuit Kutler brought. While the "abuse of power" tapes were to be released first, a step taken last fall, Nelson said the cabinet room tapes are supposed to be next, followed by releases in chronological order of the remaining 2,338 hours over the next several years.

Under that timetable, Nelson argued, any "abuse of power" snippets not released last fall will have to wait for their chronological turn to come up. He said lawyers at the archives agree with his reading of the settlement pact.

An exception, however, is being made for three tapes on Vietnam POW-MIA matters, which will be released with transcripts September 29.

Carlin said in his memo that the Nixon estate agreed to this release "for humanitarian reasons, following a special request from representatives of POW-MIA families." In fact, those three tapes and transcripts were provided to Nixon's lawyers almost five years ago. They had been sought by a Senate committee investigating POW-MIA issues, but while Nixon responded to questions posed by the committee, lawyers for Nixon denied the committee access to the tapes themselves.

In allowing the POW tapes to be made public now, Nelson said the estate was free to permit "earlier releases" than the agreement provides for. But as for the now declassified "abuse of power" segments, he said, "the estate does not see a reason for deviating from the agreement." (Washington Post)

Jennings, Rather to anchor Mother Teresa funeral

By JOHN CARMODY

WASHINGTON - ABC News's Peter Jennings and CBS News's Don Rather will both be in Calcutta on Saturday to anchor live broadcasts of Mother Teresa's state funeral.

Both will also anchor the Friday editions of their respective *World News Tonight* and *CBS Evening News* programs from Calcutta.

A spokeswoman for NBC News said late Monday that the network "hadn't formulated" plans for funeral coverage yet.

CBS News noted it already had dispatched Moscow-based correspondent Richard Threlkeld to India to cover the story.

Jennings, whose overseas assignments as a correspondent for ABC News included a first visit to India in 1965 and regular coverage from 1969 to 1975, said Monday that "Calcutta is the most interesting city in India. But the poverty was ubiquitous - it was such a natural place for Mother Teresa to put down roots, the poor were so desperate."

Jennings arrived in New York Monday after covering the funeral in Britain over the weekend and had yet to read any of the criticisms of network coverage (anchors talking too much was a print media favorite). "So far," said Jennings, "I get the feeling we did quite well" Saturday morning, but he conceded that one ABC glitch "was clearly in bad taste - we won't do it again."

As Sarah McCorquodale, Princess Diana's sister, recited a poem during the funeral service, the network aired a "billboard" pointing out she had once been Prince Charles's girlfriend and had suffered from anorexia.

Schools ban mascots with Native Indian themes

By DOUG SMITH

LOS ANGELES - Brushing aside the pleas of some teachers, parents and alumni to keep cherished traditions, the Los Angeles Board of Education voted Monday to eliminate all references to American Indians in the names and images of school mascots.

The 6-0 vote, followed by an American Indian victory drum ceremony, gives three high schools and one middle school a year to replace their current Indian mascots. It also provides district funds to pay for paint to cover up Indian images and for new school uniforms, when necessary.

"Any group that feels hurt, we have to say, 'I will help you,'" said board member George Kiriama, trying to mollify critics of the ban. "You have to be sensitive not just to the Native American but all people of life."

The policy will require replacement mascots for the Braves of Birmingham High School in Van Nuys, the Mohicans of Gardena High and the Warriors of University High in West Los Angeles and Wilmington Middle School.

Several American Indian groups had asked the board last Tuesday to ban Indian mascots after it appeared that alumni groups from Birmingham and University were detailing an order to that effect issued by former superintendent Sidney Thompson.

Stunned by the quick rebuff, Birmingham High supporters came out in force Monday to argue that the change would destroy school spirit, waste money and open the way to attacks on other mascot names, such as four with the same names as condoms.

"Approximately 30 mascots fall into the category of politically incorrect, unless the animal rights activists come out, then it will be 100 percent," said Lee Marks, a Birmingham alumnus. (LA Times)



Yemenite step
German President Roman Herzog (left) and the President of Yemen Ali Abdallah Saleh review the honouguards after Saleh's arrival in Bonn's presidential palace yesterday. (AP)

Divers recover more bodies from sunken Haitian ferry

By JIM LONEY

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (Reuters) - Divers were set to return to a sunken Haitian ferry yesterday to resume recovering the bodies of hundreds of passengers trapped below deck when the boat sank near shore.

As many as 400 people drowned when the packed ferry *La Fierle Gonavienne* (the *Pride of Gonave*) went down on Monday in 36.5 meters of water just 50 meters off Montrois on the Gulf of Gonave, officials and witnesses said.

Divers from the Canadian contingent of UN peacekeepers recovered at least 24 bodies from the ferry late on Monday and were to return to the vessel early yesterday.

"It's hard to get the bodies out because the spaces are really narrow," said Cpl. Chantal Arsenault, of the Canadian Armed Forces, who along with some other 18 divers searched the sunken vessel, prying

open windows and doors to get inside.

She described a gruesome scene where dozens of victims were crammed into narrow passageways and near exits.

"We went down the main stairway and there's people stuck in the railings. Bodies stuck in the doorways," she said. "It's hard to say [how many], but there's sure a lot. Dozens for sure. A hundred or more, maybe."

The divers recovered bodies near one entry after prying open a doorway, and took them to shore in small boats. The victims were placed on the stony beach, where officials went through pockets searching for identification before sliding the bodies into plastic bags.

Witnesses and survivors said the vessel about 13 meters long, tipped when many of the passengers went to one side, apparently to disembark. Officials said the vessel routinely overflowed by drawing into shallow

water where passengers either swam, waded, or were carried to shore.

Accounts differed on how many people were on board, making it unclear how many may have reached shore safely.

"The report we have from the Haitian Coast Guard is 300 to 400 dead," US Coast Guard Petty Officer Scott Carr said in Miami.

Ferry manager Gabriel Louise said its capacity was 400 and it carried only 260, while Sylvain Chane, a local official from La Gonave, told Reuters 276 tickets were sold, not including children. A ticket collector said that 800 people boarded and police said there were 800-900 passengers.

US officials in Port-au-Prince said the ferry had a maximum recommended capacity of 80 people.

The Canadian divers recovered at least 24 bodies from the boat, but had only been able to search one of three below-deck compartments.

Haitian Red Cross Secretary-General Regis Marc said only 30 people were confirmed to have survived.

Frisco in chaos as BART strikes

SAN FRANCISCO - Commuters were plunged into transportation hell yesterday, the first workday after 2,600 workers with the Bay Area Rapid Transit system went on strike.

Normally, 275,000 people ride the BART all-train system every day. But not a single train was running on the system's 93 miles of track yesterday morning.

Desperate commuters jammed ferries or crowded into hastily put-together car-pools, while others daring enough to take the trip alone ended up circling the city in search of what was rarely found - a parking space. Bus riders reported waiting up to an hour, watching bus after packed bus pass them by. Some of the luckiest did their jobs from home while others just gave up and took the day off.

Monumental traffic jams began blocking freeways leading into San Francisco by 5:30 a.m. and lasted up to five hours.

"It's terrible," said Kathy Madden, a building manager in San Francisco who got off the ferry from Oakland Monday morning looking angry and exhausted. "My commute on BART normally takes 30 minutes."

"I've been at it for three hours this morning, and I still have to walk up to my building." Unless the strike is settled, Madden said, she will take vacation time and stay home the rest of the week. "This can't go on for long," she said. "It is too crippling."

The trigger for all the misery is a dispute over wages and a two-tiered pay system for workers. Last week, BART unions turned down what management called its final offer of a 3 percent annual pay raise for the next three years, saying that was not enough.

At a news conference in the morning, Mayor Willie Brown

offered his services as an informal mediator. BART management and the three unions involved quickly accepted the offer. They canceled a session with a state mediator in favor of sending BART board vice president James Fang and union leaders to City Hall Monday afternoon. The meeting lasted 90 minutes.

The mayor told reporters he wants to end the strike quickly, before it damages San Francisco's booming economy. But there was no indication that a breakthrough was imminent.

In a statement issued in the afternoon, BART President Margaret Pryor said the strike was "about very well paid workers, who have a generous offer on the table which would keep them among the best-paid transit workers in the nation and yet they are striking for even more." Daniel

Beagle, a spokesman for Service Employees International Union Local 790, which represents BART mechanics and clerks, defended the wages as fair for workers living in one of the nation's most expensive regions.

"What is highly paid here in the Bay area?" Beagle asked. "If a top mechanic is making \$48,000, you've got to pay that kind of money to get the kind of system you want. That's what it costs."

The unions are asking for annual raises of 6.5 percent, 5.5 percent, and 5 percent over the next three years. They also are fighting to end a two-tiered wage system, in which workers hired after January 1, 1995, can reach only about 90 percent of the top pay scale.

"There are issues of principle here," said Beagle. "We want equal pay for equal work." (LA Times)

Some 50 fragments of medieval manuscripts are now at the Israel Museum. Sounds dull? Well, they form one of the most exciting and moving exhibitions I have ever seen.

Meir Ronnen
The Jerusalem Post

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studied. Now a selection on loan from Cambridge is on view in Jerusalem. It presents a vivid picture of the spiritual - and not so spiritual - mores and business dealings of a medieval Jewish community. Shorashim and The Jerusalem Post Travel Club invite you to a weekend seminar with the experts, Prof. Stefan Reif, Head of the Cairo Archive, Cambridge University, and Prof. Mordechai Akiva Friedman, Jewish Culture in Moslem Lands and Cairo Geniza Studies, Tel Aviv University.

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A royal dilemma

Can the monarchy survive in a society badly shaken by the loss of its princess?

By PATT MORRISON

LONDON — To employ a James Bond martini metaphor, the people of Britain have been stirred — and the House of Windsor has been shaken.

Now — following the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales — comes the question that all of last week's lesser questions of precedent and protocol had been leading up to: Should the debate be about the monarchy of the future, its nature and character, or the future of the monarchy and whether it even has one? From the flower-bearing millions, the monarchy learned, belatedly and again, that "us" and "them" are dangerous pronouns to be on the wrong side of.

In large measure because of those millions, the Princess of Wales in death may accomplish what she found herself thwarted at in life: changing the royal rules at unprecedented speed.

Already there are indications that the Diana divide was not only between people and palace, but between royal generations ... and that Charles, the Prince of Wales, may come out of it smelling like a rose for his part in making precedent bend to the moment.

Until last week, betting men might have wagered that the heir to the throne was odds-on to step out of the succession, marry his first love and grow organic vegetables. But through the standard process of oblique leaks, it was emerging that Charles had pushed for the funeral concessions and innovations, backed by Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Britain's Channel 4, quoting a "senior official close to court circles," said it was the queen who had insisted that, because Diana was no longer a member of the royal family, her body "was on no account to be brought to any of the royal palaces" but sent to a private mortuary for a private funeral.

Her ally was her private secretary and Diana's brother-in-law, Sir Robert Fellowes, married to Diana's sister Jane, and the liaison to the Spencer family, which also supported a private funeral.

Charles was airborne to London from Paris, London's *Sunday Times* reported, negotiating by air phone to be allowed to return Diana's body to St. James's Palace. At one point, Channel 4 reported, Charles had a blazing row with Sir Robert Fellowes in which Sir Robert was told to "impale himself



The royal family poses in Windsor Castle on the day of Prince William's confirmation in March of this year. (AP)

on his own flagstaff." The palace has called that story "nonsensical speculation."

Until Diana's arrival on the scene, Charles was looked to as the agent of change, arguing for a modern monarchy, musing over the worth of other religions, setting up his Prince's Trust for Britain's young, poor and hopeless.

It was he who had reached across 50 years of post-abdication bitterness when he visited the outcast Duchess of Windsor, calling her "Aunt Wallis." Even her death occasioned criticism for "callous" treatment at the hands of the monarch. And Britain had once hated her as intensely as it loved Diana.

Whatever the dissonance of their personal lives, Charles and Diana had much of their work in common — the young and disadvantaged chief among them — and on the day in 1996 that both a mar-

riage and a royal team were dissolved by divorce, they sat together on a sofa at Kensington Palace and wept for both a marriage and a team that had failed.

Charles was savaged by talk-show callers for walking in his wife's funeral procession in a blue suit instead of a black one, until it was learned that he wore it because Diana liked him in it.

The royals last week took hesitant advantage of Blair's media savvy and took up the visual language of the modern media. They sent palace spokesmen out to speak to cameras, the royals awkwardly viewed tribute flowers outside the Scottish castle of Balmoral and at London's Kensington Palace, Diana's residence; and, finally, there was the queen's speech to the nation the day before the funeral.

Blair's media guru was invited to the daily planning meetings, it was reported, and a troika of Charles, Blair and the Spencer family had approval over each decision.

Some court observers believe last week's close call gives Charles more leverage to persuade the institution to move into the 21st century with the rest of the nation.

Without direct political or military power, the monarchy not only needs to do but to be seen to do. And that means dealing with the press, which has been the unwinnable struggle of the modern monarchy. How much press is enough, how much is too much, and how, like Dr. Frankenstein, can the royals keep the rooster

they had a hand in creating from destroying them? The media courtship, sometimes a waltz and sometimes slam-dancing, is trickier than it seems. Diana's brother's savaging of the press was something the royal family could never do itself, but it stands to benefit from at least temporary institutional remorse.

Charles stepped into this opportunity that Diana's brother created, and his plea that the press leave his motherless sons alone elicited remorseful pledges of cooperation Monday from editors who have "taken the pledge" not to use paparazzi grab-shots of the boys.

One enduring principle of monarchy is that no one is irreplaceable: the king is dead, long live the king. Diana has now been characterized as the irreplaceable princess, whose touch-and-hug style ironically revived a kind of atavistic magic that the monarchy had worked to discard, like the ancient belief that the British sovereign's touch could cure scrofula.

Once the couple divorced, speculation had only grown about whether there will ever be a King Charles III. His stepping aside would make the beloved Diana's son the heir apparent, but Charles the Parent also knows it would, on the queen's death, thrust his young son into lifelong harness that even the queen, at a self-disciplined 25 years of age, did not want so soon. And there is another consideration: that Charles, having failed at marriage, will more likely cling to fulfilling the only other duty demanded of him in life, to become king.

The marital split that also split the loyalties of the country may heal themselves both in the memorial charity fund established in Diana's memory, and in the person of Prince William; resenting Charles means resenting William's sole surviving parent.

Antimonarchist sentiments have historically been quelled by royal tragedy, as in 1870, when Queen Victoria's heir almost died of the same typhoid that killed his father. Yet this royal tragedy may revive those sentiments.

Optimistic royalists will say that the aftermath of Diana's death offers a healing balm. The crown, they will point out, has survived four regicides — one by the king's wife — two revolutions and an abdication, countless plots and coups and foreign wars, passages of illegitimate children, a schism with the Catholic world.

In stable times, they note, people want change. But in tumultuous ones — in times of war or tragedy — they want stability.

Can the royals survive such fluid expectations? It has been obvious they no longer lead; can they now even keep up enough to follow? Four hundred years ago, Shakespeare's play about King Henry V had the king, on the eve of the great victorious battle of Agincourt, agonizing over the burdens of human lives that then rested upon rulers: "What have I got, that privates have not too, save Ceremony, save general ceremony? And what art thou, thou idol Ceremony ... O ceremony, show me but thy worth!" (Los Angeles Times)

Japanese mobsters feared more violent

By MARY JORDAN and KEVIN SULLIVAN

TOKYO — It was like a scene from *The Godfather*. Four mob assassins walked into a crowded coffee shop in an expensive hotel, pulled out .45-caliber handguns and pumped seven bullets into a rival don, blasting him out of his chair and spraying blood all over the cafe.

But this wasn't New York or Sicily. Last week's brazen, daylight assassination happened in the Japanese port city of Kobe, and it has triggered the biggest crack-down in years on the country's organized crime syndicates, known as *yakuza*. A mass manhunt involving 5,000 police officers

has been mobilized against the Yamaguchi-gumi, the country's largest crime family, looking for guns and trying to stop a mob power struggle that apparently led to the killing.

At least 11 gang members have been arrested, and scores of *yakuza* homes and offices have been raided. At Sunday's funeral for the slain mob boss, Masaru Takumi, about 400 police officers showed up, photographing the 700 mourners and frisking the pallbearers.

Perhaps even more significantly, the assassination has raised police fears that the long-tolerated domestic crime family is turning into a violent organization with ties to foreign mobs, especially Chinese crime syndicates.

Takumi, 61, was the Yamaguchi-gumi's second most powerful figure and its chief financial officer, controlling millions of dollars.

Police officials regarded him as an old-school moderate who advocated less involvement in drugs and violence and tried to steer the crime family into legitimate business ventures. After Kobe's devastating 1995 earthquake, members of Takumi's organization helped in rescue efforts and made donations, winning public thanks.

Takumi disagreed with more militant gang members who sought new forms of revenue through links with Thai and Malaysian prostitution rings, as well as Chinese criminals manufacturing illegal compact discs for pachinko machines — an extraordinarily lucrative gambling venture. Some *yakuza* gangs have recently forged ties with Chinese syndicates to smuggle illegal immigrants into Japan on boats for up to \$25,000 apiece.

After Takumi's killing, police began investigating a violent faction within his crime family that was "excommunicated" last week.

Those more militant members are said to have disagreed with the way Takumi was running the family.

Atsushi Mizoguchi, a journalist who has been following the *yakuza* for 30 years, said in an interview that the killing is "a symbol of the chaos" in the *yakuza*.

"The traditional *yakuza* is in the process of dismantling. It is becoming more criminal, more underground and more like the overseas mafia," he says.

Mizoguchi said the *yakuza's* sources of income are changing, its membership is declining, and its

ties with Thai, Malaysian, Iranian and especially Chinese crime syndicates are increasing.

"It used to be the pride of the *yakuza* that they would never rob or steal from ordinary people, but that is no longer true," Mizoguchi said.

The recent, highly public incidents of violence have reinvigorated Japan's resolve to weaken the

yakuza, an effort under way since passage of a 1992 anti-mob law that banned many of the crime families' public dealings. The latest available police statistics show that 33,000

yakuza members were arrested in 1995, most frequently on drug-related charges.

According to the National Police Agency, there are nearly 80,000 *yakuza* members in Japan. But other analysts say the number has dropped to 60,000 over the last two or three years, from a peak of as many as 180,000 in the early 1960s.

Many older members are leaving as the nature of the crime syndicates changes, as police become more aggressive in prosecuting mobsters, and as the public and legitimate businessmen no longer tolerate the collusion with the mob that existed for decades in the construction industry, unions, banks, stores and other mainstream businesses.

The country's tougher economic times also have hurt the *yakuza*. As organizations from local department stores to the national government streamline and cut costs, many are no longer willing to make payoffs to the mob as a cost of doing business.

The United States and Japan currently are involved in a shipping dispute over the high cost of bringing cargo into this country. Many foreign shippers say that because of mob control of waterfront operations, it costs less to ship cargo across the Pacific than it does to move it across the dock to the trucks that will deliver it in Japan.

Under public pressure, many companies also have stopped paying thousands of dollars to specialized gangs known as *sokaiya* in exchange for the gangs' promises not to disrupt their shareholders' meetings. Because Japanese companies put a premium on harmony at these meetings, they became vulnerable to this lucrative form of extortion.

Still the collusive ties with business exist, particularly in the entertainment and gambling industries.

For decades, the *yakuza* has been tolerated on the general principle that if the crime families did not go too far, police would not come after them. Sometimes the police and the public even enlisted the gangs' help. Businesses hired mobsters to hunt unions, and police used *yakuza* muscle to control communist agitators or other disruptive groups. Partly because of the Japanese aversion to filing lawsuits, ordinary citizens turned to the gangs to settle small-time disputes. (The Washington Post)



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 DAVID KIMBLE
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Guys and dolls, girls and trucks

A Tel Aviv day-care center has turned traditional gender roles upside down, Allison Kaplan Sommer discovered on a recent visit.

It's mid-morning at the WIZO day-care center on King George Street in Tel Aviv, and the place is abuzz with activity. Children are drawing and painting, playing with dolls, blocks, trucks and an assortment of other toys. Nothing could seem more typical. But a closer look reveals that something different is going on.

"Look at those clean, adorable babies!" exclaims Sara Maman, one of the day-care workers, as she supervises a group of two-year-old boys busy scrubbing baby dolls in basins of water. "That's right," she instructs them, "put the soap all over their bodies, wash their arms, their legs, and their tummies. Give their hair a good shampoo. Afterwards, we'll dry them off, rub on cream, put on their diapers and their clothes."

Outside in the yard, girls of the same age are busy on a little construction site, sawing wood, putting together nuts and bolts and painting walls with giant rollers of white paint.

This WIZO center is pioneering what it hopes will become a nationwide program promoting equal opportunity for men and women — starting from the earliest of ages. In an effort to counteract the social pressure that directs little girls toward dolls and boys toward building, and to signal that all possibilities are open to both sexes, staffers at the King George center are encouraging the children to participate in activities outside the stereotypes of their sexes.

This will be the third year that the King George center is formally implementing its gender-equality program. The program's initiator, Drorit Amitai-Dror, WIZO national educational supervisor in the Department of Early Age Care and Education, and Aliza Harris, director of the King George nursery, say that so far they are pleased with how it's been going.

The culmination of the project last year was an all-girls soccer game, where the girls played, and the boys stood on the sidelines, waved pom-poms, and cheered. By all accounts, both the boys and the girls had a wonderful time.

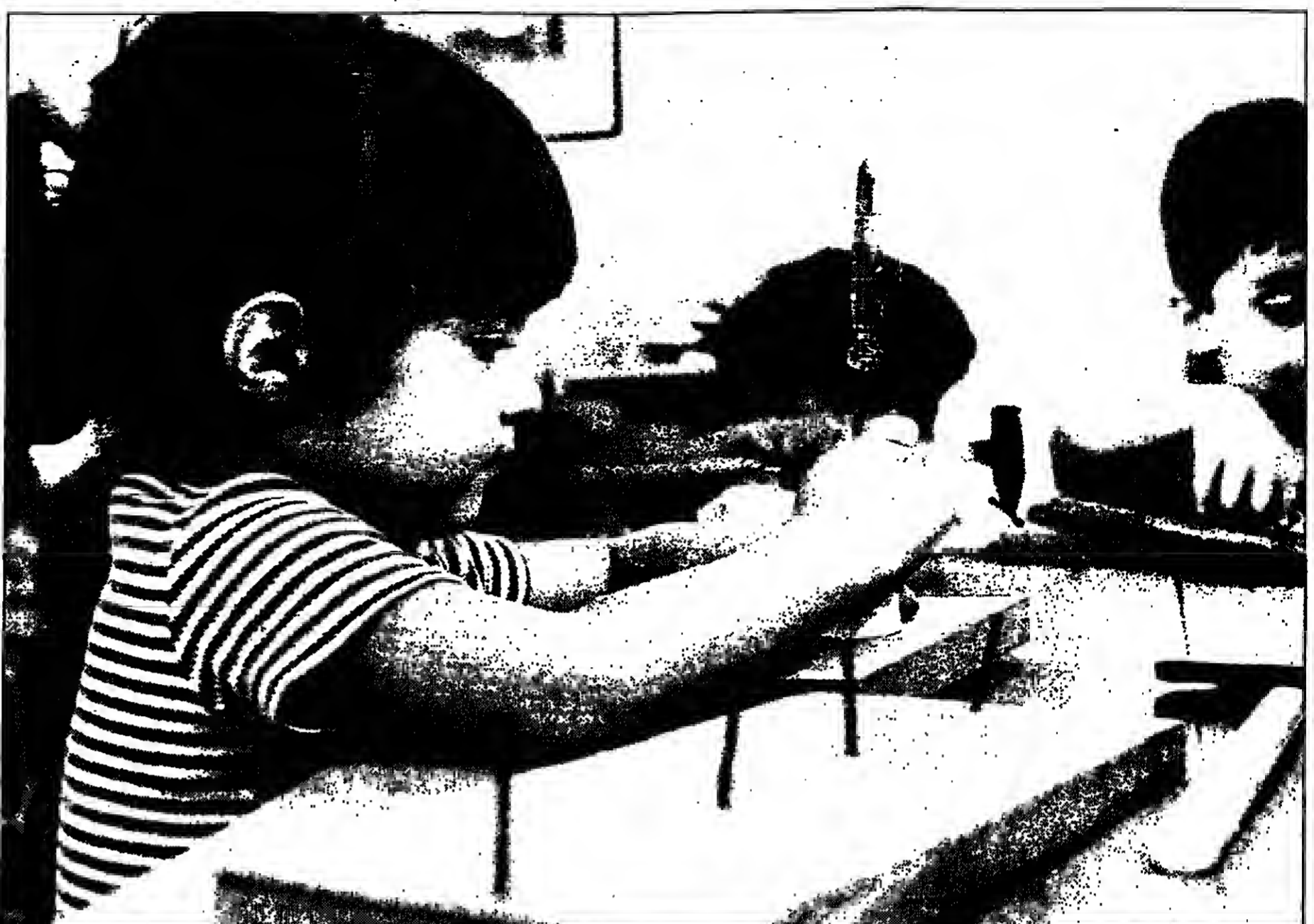
"The hope is to get children to learn equality during their most formative years," says Amitai-Dror, emphasizing that the aim is strictly educational, not political. The program is designed to help a little girl envision a future life that could include being an engineer, pilot or doctor, rather than limiting herself to the traditional images of housewife and mother.

"Our intention is not to obscure sexual identity but to encourage a young girl to be ambitious about her future," says Amitai-Dror. Similarly, she adds, boys should learn that cooking, cleaning, caring for babies and cheering on girls playing soccer are perfectly natural activities for them to pursue.

Harris stresses that while boys and girls at the center are encouraged to participate in activities that are not necessarily traditional for their sex, "nobody around here is forcing boys to play with dolls, or girls to play with trucks."

Since a program like this couldn't get off the ground without the cooperation and understanding of the entire WIZO nursery staff, Amitai-Dror and Harris didn't launch it before they had conducted a number of consciousness-raising sessions on society's expectations of men and women. In them, the staffers were encouraged to make a complete break with tradition regarding the center's routine. For example, they began to make a point of asking the girls to move chairs and desks, and the boys to clear up the doll corner or tidy the toy kitchen.

To make the message of broadened gender roles consistent, it needed to be extended to the children's parents. Thus, when children



If WIZO's pioneering program takes hold nationwide, pictures like this will seem nothing out of the ordinary.

(Jonathan Bloom)

are asked to bring a cake from home for a party, it isn't automatically assumed that mothers will do the baking, or that only fathers will be asked to volunteer to do repairs at the nursery.

"In the beginning, it did all feel a little strange," admits Maman, who has worked at the King George WIZO center for 21 years. "But now it feels completely natural."

There were some unexpected challenges along the way. One problem the staff ran into early on in the program came during story time.

When the teachers read traditional fairy tales and other stories to the children, they found that, counter to the message the educators want to promote, in most books the female characters were either passive heroines or evil witches, while the males were the heroes. This situation prompted them to create alternative stories, or provide critical commentary on the traditional tales.

The staff has even learned to reinforce the message in casual

remarks. When one little girl picked up a toy telephone and began talking into it, a teacher asked, "Who are you talking to? It looks like you are making a very important call. You are clearly a very successful businesswoman."

According to Harris and the center staff members, the children are thrilled by the opportunity to participate in the whole range of activities and play a variety of roles. It seems they show no fear of becoming

"tomboys" or "sissies."

The only negative reactions have come from a handful of parents — mostly fathers of boys — who were worried that the program might weaken or feminize their sons.

And although the messages that appeared on the bulletin board put up last year for parents' reactions were mostly supportive, one father, signing himself "A Worried Dad," wrote: "Don't ruin my son and turn him into a woman."

Although Harris and Amitai-Dror insist that they are promoting education and not a social revolution, there have been wider-ranging repercussions. The husband of one of the staff members at the center complained that all the consciousness-raising going on at work was damaging his relationship with his wife. Perhaps she thought that if two-year-old boys could prepare dinner, change diapers and wash dishes, so could her husband.



A good shampoo is essential, and there's so much to do afterwards — drying dolly off, putting on cream, a clean diaper and some clothes.

(Jonathan Bloom)

PARENTING

Gain respect by giving it

By RUTH MASON

Wendy Mogel, Ph.D., is a Los Angeles psychologist who gave up her practice when she discovered Judaism. Her first child was a baby eight years ago when a friend invited her to a family Friday night service at her synagogue. Someone played guitar and the women rabbis were friendly. Mogel cried.

"I really did feel like coming home," she says.

Mogel took a year off from her practice to study Judaism intensively and she has been studying ever since. The more she studied, the more she saw that Judaism speaks to the issues of parenting at the turn of the millennium very eloquently. She began leading parent guidance workshops based on Jewish teachings and is now a popular speaker and workshop leader in the Los Angeles area.

Mogel is currently working on a book on Jewish parenting in which she will write about 10 parenting problems and offer solutions from Jewish tradition. She would like to hear from parents who react to who motivated them to read about the ways in which they have found life to be different for their children since moving here. She is also interested in hearing how parents have solved a tough parenting problem, especially problems related to modern parenting. She can be reached by E-mail at wrmogel@aol.com.

In a recent visit to Israel, Mogel shared some of her thinking with the "Parenting" column. In this and the next two columns, we will pass some of her insights on to you.

The fifth commandment tells us to honor your father and mother that your days may be long upon the earth. It's the only one of the Ten Commandments in which God makes a deal with us, because the Torah recognizes that children are not naturally inclined to treat their parents with respect. In fact, although we are required to love God and to love our neighbors, Judaism does not require us to love our parents. Instead we are required to treat them with dignity and to care for them in their old age.

Remember those "Question Authority" buttons that were popular in the 1970s? Some baby-boomer parents take an ideological stand against any role distinctions that are "given" rather than earned. After fighting against oppressive power structures in their young adulthood, they are reluctant to demand honor and respect from their children simply because of their status as parents.

For other parents, their own childhood experience of "not having been heard" leads them to be cautious about being less than perfectly attuned to and deeply respectful of their children's feelings and needs. Yet paradoxically, parents who strive for equality and fairness in everything find themselves with demanding, greedy, anxious children.

Judaism is a religion of dead and not creed. Our thoughts and feelings belong to us; it is our behavior toward others that counts with God. By retaining respect from our children, we are not feeding our own egos, we are feeding our children's.

When a child is born, the parents are given the responsibility of teaching the child how to behave. Before they begin going to school, all students are given a lesson in how to behave in a classroom. A child is never left alone for one moment before it is named. This is all for the sake of honor of parents of teachers and of the dead.

We can set some new standards for our families by teaching children how to sit at their parents' places at the table, to greet and make requests using a person's name or title and to say "yes please" and "no, thank you" when offered something.

This key to doing this: Practice what you preach. If you require honor, you must also demonstrate it.

If you tell your child you're going to do something (positive or negative), do it. Bend down and look at children at eye level when talking to them. Remember, if we teach our children to honor their elders, they'll have a good reason to want to grow up.

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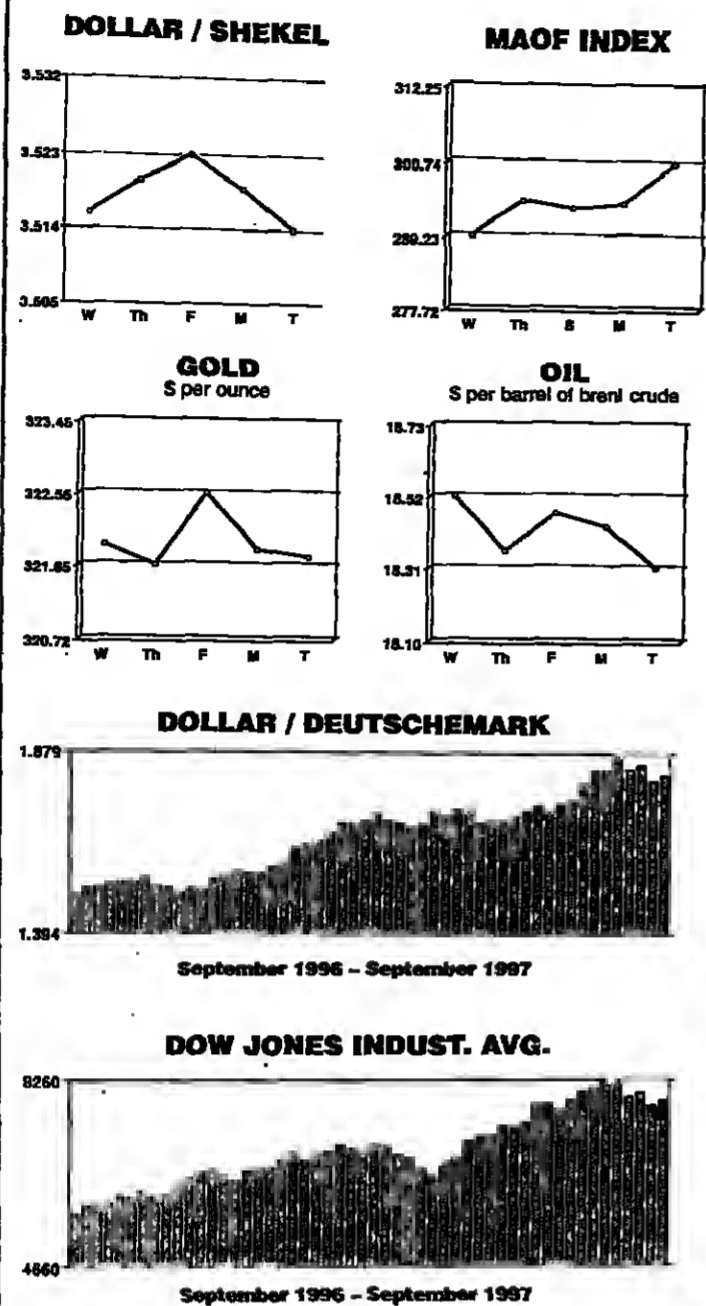
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MARKETS

in brief



\$56m. Islamic investment fund founded

Individuals and companies have founded a new Islamic investment firm with a paid-up capital of 17 million dinars (\$56.66 million), the Kuwait News Agency has reported Monday.

The company, Al-Oula Investments, will invest in real estate, industrial and agriculture projects, the stock exchange and investment funds, according to the state-run agency.

Islamic institutions traditionally don't accept or pay interest and, instead, share in profits.

Kuwait has one Islamic bank. AP

Japanese to study Dead Sea-Red Sea railway

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Nissho Iwai, Japan's sixth largest corporation and the 13th biggest worldwide, will begin conducting feasibility studies for a railroad that would run from the Israeli side of the Dead Sea to the Red Sea via Jordan, Koichi Naito, general manager of the company's Tel Aviv office, said yesterday.

The line is part of the company's plan to support bilateral projects between Jordan and Israel, Naito said.

Unlike many Japanese companies, which have shied away from doing business in Israel since difficulties in the peace process erupted, Nissho Iwai remains committed to promoting peace through economic cooperation, said Naito.

"My philosophy is to support the peace process through economic development and the creation of jobs," he said.

"Our target is to be at the vanguard of supporting [regional] economies."

However, Naito said breakthroughs in talks between Israel and the Palestinians would speed the company's local growth.

In terms of local employees, "we are three times larger this year than last, but if the peace process moved faster we could have been 10 times bigger," he said.

Established last year, the company's Tel Aviv office employs six people.

Worldwide Nissho Iwai, which had a turnover of \$89 billion in 1996, has some 37,000 employees.

Last year, Nissho Iwai exported \$50m. in Israeli goods to Japan.

The company's 1997 and 2000 targets are \$110m. and \$200m. Most of the exports are in textiles, prepared foods, and high-tech items.

Nissho Iwai also intends to participate in the Israeli project to provide Jordan with desalinated water, to work on the gas pipeline between Israel and Egypt, and to push the Jordanian government to create a free-trade zone with Israel.

Such a development would allow companies to simultaneously benefit from Jordan's cheap labor supply and Israel's free-trade agreements with Europe and the U.S.

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Anti-trust Authority launches probe of Mashav's cartel status

By DAN GERSTENFELD and JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Anti-trust Commissioner David Tadmor yesterday said he is investigating Koor Industries and Clal Israel on suspicion they are operating a cartel.

In a letter sent to Koor, Clal, and IDB Holdings, which controls Clal, Tadmor told the companies he is

considering declaring their joint holdings, particularly in Mashav Initiating and Development, a holding company with interests that include cement, fuel, and real estate, as "anti-competitive." "Such a practice violates our laws," Tadmor said.

He gave the firms 21 days to file their initial response and 90 days to submit a full report describing their joint activities. If the Anti-Trust

Commission declares Mashav a cartel, the two firms will have to dispose of their holdings, said Tadmor.

Another possible outcome would result in forcing the two to reach a new ownership structure deal, either by one party selling its holdings to the other, or by diluting its holdings by bringing in a third partner.

Koor previously said it favors offering Neshor, Mashav's wholly-

owned subsidiary and the country's only cement producer, on a US stock exchange. Clal opposes the move.

Koor CEO Binyamin Gaon and Mashav's general manager Yossi Roseman recently returned from the US, after a round of meetings with the Merrill Lynch investment bank.

Merrill Lynch intends to handle sale of the 30 percent of the shares of Neshor. Merrill Lynch is presently

negotiating with three of the world's six largest concerns, and a deal is expected to be signed with one of them by the end of the year.

In addition to Neshor, Mashav holds a 50% stake in cement container operator Ta'avura, a 100% stake in Av-Shal Investment & Trade, 54.2% in Granite Hacarmel Investments, and a 20% holding in M.E.E. Gas.

MKs threaten to challenge Migdal's deal with Generali

By DAVID HARRIS

Michael Kleiner (Gesher), chief coalition representative on the Knesset Finance Committee, said yesterday he intends to retroactively challenge Bank Leumi's sale of Migdal Insurance to Assicurazioni Generali, unless the Italian insurance company transfers money to a fund for families of Holocaust victims within a week.

In June, Generali agreed to establish a \$12 million fund to make payments to families who claim they hold life insurance policies in the names of Holocaust victims which had never been redeemed.

Previously, both Generali and Migdal had refused to pay out such policies, even if the families had documentation, and the Finance Committee had threatened to initiate a boycott of Migdal.

Generali also agreed to set up an information hot line at its Trieste base and a variety of other steps. However, now Kleiner says four of the key measures have yet to be acted upon.

The Finance Committee and Generali executives agreed to create a five-person committee to manage the fund, but so far Generali has failed to approve the four representatives it was agreed the Knesset would appoint.

Despite promising to allow Yad Vashem full access to Generali's archives, no such

arrangement has yet been made by the company.

The company's representatives are dragging their feet in transferring documentation to Elishava Anshacher, the lawyer representing many of the Israeli families with claims against the company.

No money has yet been forthcoming from the company for the fund.

Kleiner said he will give the company one week to rectify matters before he attempts to invalidate the company's 1996 purchase of Migdal Insurance. So far he has not explained how this can be achieved.

"This matter is now very serious," said Kleiner. "If a valid agreement with the Knesset is not upheld, why then should Israel uphold the agreement to the sale of Migdal?"

Generali's legal representative in Israel, Amihud Ben-Porat, is overseas and was unavailable for comment.

"The success of the tender wherein Israel's largest Bank, Hapoalim, was recently sold for an authentic price, begs the question why was Israel's largest insurer, Migdal, sold in a private, cloak-and-dagger manner, over which to this day a veil of silence remains," said one of the family members, Mario Stern.

He has lodged an official complaint with the Israel Bar Association's ethics committee concerning Ben-Porat's behavior regarding the fund.

Barak raises phone rates

By JUDY SIEGEL

Overseas-calls provider Barak yesterday increased overseas dialing rates by 12 percent to all destinations - except the US and Canada, which will remain the same, and France, which will cost 98 agorot per minute instead of

NIS 1.22.

The company, whose dialing prefix is 013, is thus taking advantage of a stipulation in its license from the Communications Ministry which allows it to amend rates.

Barak managing director Avi Patir said that even after the rate

changes, the company still offers "the cheapest telecommunications basket" of any of the three competing firms.

The ministry set rates for six years, allowing for the companies to implement rises when the Consumer Price Index increases more than 8.5% in a year.

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- Routine test report, noise level test report and type and special test reports, of transformers identical to those sought by the bid, according to paragraph 3.3 of Annexure B of the tender specifications. For this purpose, identical transformers are considered to be transformers with the same internal structure and with the same technical data as given in the tender specifications. Bidders who do not have such test reports will be required to:
 - Submit to the purchaser, together with their offer, the type and special test reports (in English) of similar transformers.
 - Guarantee to perform, should they be awarded the contract, type and special tests (at their own expense) as required in paragraph 3.3 of Annexure B of the tender specifications, and to submit the reports (in English) of these type and special tests at least one month before shipment of the ordered transformers.
- Questionnaire (Annexure C, part C2 of the specifications) signed and completed separately for each transformer type offered (defined by rated voltage and rated power).
- Manufacturer's Qualification Questionnaire, signed and completed.
- Spare parts data, including the following information:
 - The manufacturer's name and number of the spare part, the order number (if any) and the description of the spare part, and the reference number in drawing.
- Quality Assurance Manual.
- A preliminary "Test and Inspection Program" as required in paragraph 1.2.4 of Appendix A of Annexure B of the specifications.
- Know-how agreement to the IEC's satisfaction (in case of know-how transfer).
- Customers' list of similar transformers including quantities, type number, customer name, country and year of manufacture.
- Certificate of compliance with ISO Standard 9001.
 - In case of know-how agreement:
 - Certificate of compliance with ISO Standard 9001 of Know-how Supplier.
 - Certificate of compliance with ISO Standard 9002 of Know-how Recipient.

All test reports, documents, data and written material must be submitted in either English or Hebrew. Written material in other languages will be rejected.

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Last date for submitting bids for the above tenders: October 26, 1997, at 11 a.m.

Additional pre-conditions (in addition to the pre-conditions stated for each tender):

- Participation in the tender is also subject to complying with the preliminary conditions detailed in the Tender Regulations 1993, Para. 6(a) 1, 2, 3 (i.e., registration as required by law, compliance with mandatory specifications, and the holding of the permits required by law for transactions with public bodies).
- The Israel Electric Corporation reserves the right to allow a bidder who has not provided some required relevant documents, permits, licenses, etc. to submit them within a specified time that will be set by the Corporation.

The tender documents may be obtained Sunday - Thursday, at the Market Research and Tenders Department, 11 Sderot Pal-Yam, Haifa, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, on submission of a receipt, demonstrating payment (non-returnable) for the documents into the Corporation's account at the Postal Bank. Payment slips for making such payments are obtainable at the above address by calling 04-861-5455/4. Before purchasing the tender documents, they may be perused, Sunday - Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, at the above offices or at the Sales Department, 90 Rehov Yigal Alilon, Tel Aviv, Ashdod Building, entrance B, 1st floor, Tel. 03-565-4679, 03-565-4641.

Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope and be placed in Tender Box No. 1 in the Pal-Yam Building, Haifa (address as above) by the last date for submitting bids, as stated above. No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

NOTE: In appropriate cases, the Electric Corporation will give preference to suppliers, in accordance with the Tender Regulations (Preference for Locally Produced Goods, and Obligation to Extend Commercial Cooperation). The Electric Corporation reserves the right to negotiate, where this is legally permissible.

0113222

THE BUSINESS SCENE

By GREER FAY CASHMAN



Customers at the Shikun Bavli branch of Four Square Co-Op found that standing in the check-out line was less tedious thanks to the new check-out book. Comedian Tuvia Tsafir (above) is a frequent customer in the store and the star entertainer for the chain's upcoming 60th anniversary festivities, which were originally slated for this week at the Ramat Gan stadium. To prepare for his gig, Tsafir thought that he ought to find out what goes on in the store from the employees' perspective. The employees themselves were supposed to have a night off on Sunday so that all of them could enjoy the anniversary gala, in the company of Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, but tragic events in Jerusalem and Lebanon put the celebrations on hold till September 14.

Deputy Prime Minister of Ukraine Sergei Tjebko, who is responsible for his country's economic reforms, is scheduled to visit the international Plasto-lapack exhibition which opens next week at the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds.

ScanVec's board of directors has appointed Shmuel Rothman as president and CEO of ScanVec Co., the parent company, and Yoav Harel as president of ScanVec Inc. (USA). Rothman, who will be responsible for ScanVec's worldwide operations, was previously employed at ELTA Electronic Industries Inc., a subsidiary of Israel Aircraft Industries, where he worked for nine years in senior management positions. Most recently he held the position of director of ELTA's Communications Systems Division and was a member of the managing board. Rothman, a graduate of the Haifa Technion, holds B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in electrical

engineering. Harel has amassed diverse experience at ScanVec Co., a leading software developer for graphics-intensive industries, as well as in ScanVec Inc., serving in various sales, marketing and administrative capacities.

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Table with columns: Fund's name, unit cost, redemption price, monthly yield, 1997 yield, and assets (\$ millions). Includes sub-sections for FLEXIBLE and SHARES.

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The straits of Magellan

To keep up with the changing nature of the mutual-fund markets, Fidelity Investments has decided to close its flagship fund to new investment

usually got more right than wrong, hence the superior returns. That was fine with \$500 million under management, even a billion. But while the funds grew, the number of ideas did not. If anything, there was more and more money chasing the same number of opportunities. Inevitably returns fell.

Historically, lots of money in the mutual-fund industry used to be fairly immobile. But with the increased sophistication of performance monitoring and far greater accessibility of this information, even the most modest of retail investors are able to - and indeed do - ruthlessly switch between worse and better performing funds. Magellan, for example, had been missing out because of this phenomenon. Matt Beaudry of the Boston-based Financial Research Corporation was quoted in the Financial Times as saying that about 85 percent of all new investments go into funds with either five- or four-star ratings from Morningstar, the most influential mutual fund research organization. Performance measurements - particularly Morningstar's - are now so widely published that they flow into the remainder of the industry are negligible, as Magellan discovered that has hurt some of the bigger funds and the groups that manage them has been the growth of "fund supermarkets." Using computer programs accessible by telephone or the Internet, investors can switch between thousands of different

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Thai package highlights IMF's Asia role

SINGAPORE - The International Monetary Fund's (IMF) leading role in arranging the recent \$17 billion bail-out package for Thailand has highlighted its hitherto low profile presence in Asia, analysts say. "To be frank, the IMF hasn't really had to do too much in Asia because everything has looked hunky-dory throughout most of the region," commented the chief economist at a European investment house in Singapore. However, the sudden collapse of international investor confidence in Thailand in July meant the IMF had to rush to put together a rescue package. "The IMF faced some criticism in that it allowed the Thai problem to

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MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table listing various mutual funds, their unit costs, redemption prices, monthly yields, 1997 yields, and assets in millions of dollars. Includes sub-sections for FLEXIBLE, SHARES, STATE BONDS, FOREIGN CURRENCY, and MIXED.

After this promising start, alas, underestimate their audience.

England face Moldova after week of mourning

LONDON (Reuters) - England face Moldova at Wembley today in what should be a one-sided World Cup qualifier flooded with emotion.

Goalkeeper David Seaman is promoted to captain to steer his country safely past their unfancied visitors and a key clash with Italy next month.

Italy have 16 points, England 15, and the two meet in Rome for their final, decisive qualifier. If Italy drop points in Georgia today and Moldova lose, England will go top of Group two.

Moldova, beaten 3-0 at home by England in the opening qualifier in the group a year ago, have no points and have only scored twice in five matches, with 13 goals against them.

They will also have to contend with the emotional aftermath to the death of Princess Diana, whose funeral in London on Saturday is fresh in the memory.

"We're realistic, all we want to do is play with dignity," Moldova coach Ivan Karas was quoted as saying in the *Daily Mail* newspaper on Tuesday.

"But Wembley will be an additional problem for us following Princess Diana's tragic death. My players realize that for them it will be their only chance to play there. I am very much afraid they will tremble at the emotion of it all."

England have more serious problems than

nerves, having lost a handful of key players. Former captain Alan Shearer, his regular attacking partner Teddy Sheringham, defenders Tony Adams and Stuart Pearce are all injured. Paul Ince is suspended.

In addition, some who could have assumed to

European teams still in contention for World Cup finals berth:

Group 1: 1st place and runners-up: Greece, Denmark, Croatia.

Group 2: 1st place and runners-up: Italy, England.

Group 3: Already qualified: Norway runners-up: Finland, Hungary, Switzerland.

Group 4: 1st place and runners-up: Scotland, Austria, Sweden.

Group 5: 1st place and runners-up: Bulgaria, Russia.

Group 6: 1st place and runners-up: Spain, Yugoslavia, Slovakia.

Group 7: 1st place: Netherlands, Belgium, runners-up: Belgium and Turkey.

Group 8: already qualified: Romania, runners-up: Ireland, Lithuania, Macedonia.

Group 9: 1st place and runners-up: Ukraine, Germany, Portugal.

be in the line-up may find themselves watching.

England manager Glenn Hoddle told reporters on Tuesday at an informal outdoor press conference that several players with bookings might play less of a role to ensure their presence against Italy next month.

That match in Rome could well decide the group and which team qualifies automatically for France.

Manchester United midfielder David Beckham, Graeme Le Saux, David Batty - who has in any case been carrying a foot injury - and Robert Lee are all booked and in danger of suspension.

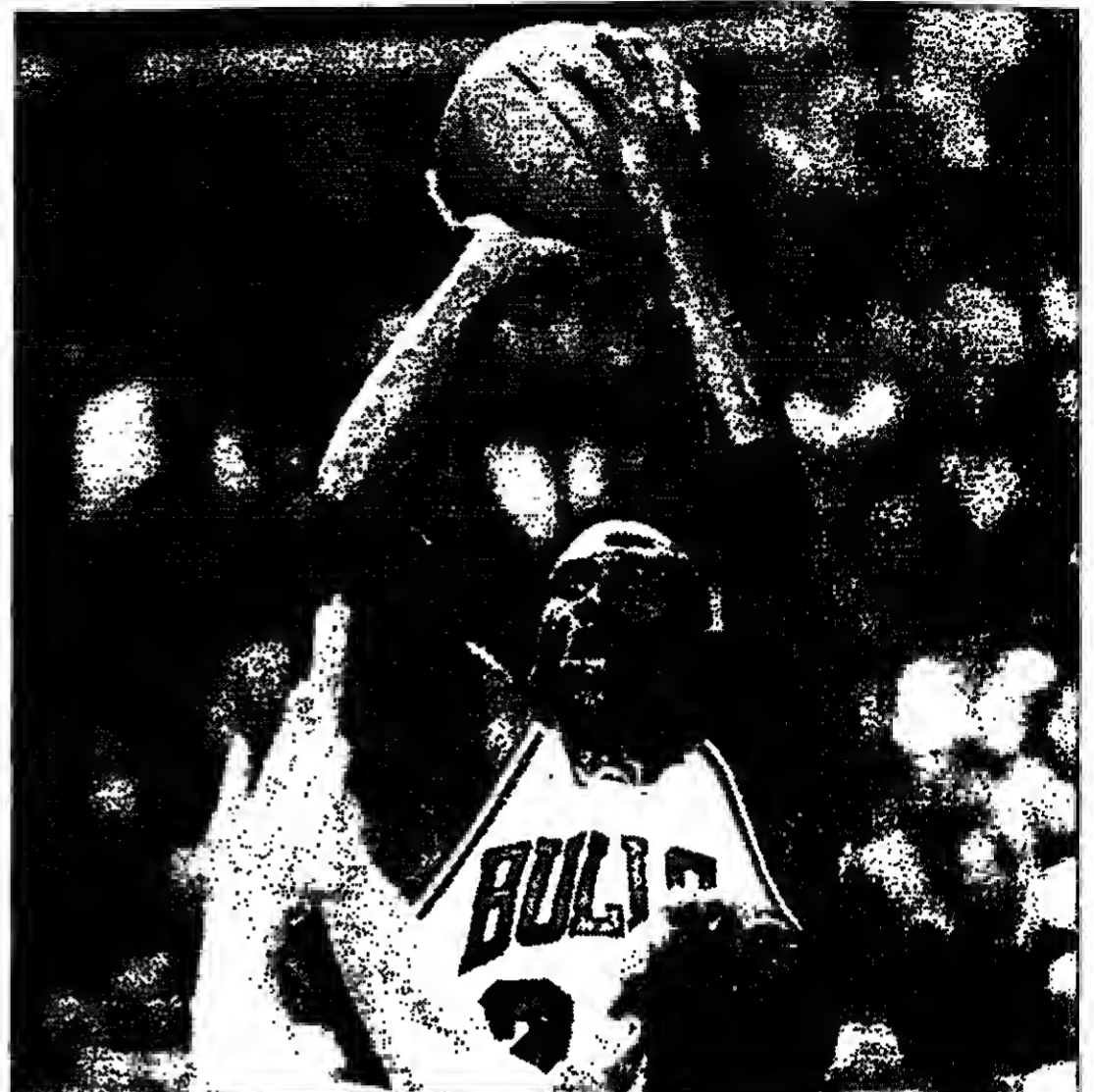
Hoddle may decide to leave them on the bench or substitute them early in a match that should not overly trouble the far superior home side.

"I would say that they have to be aware that they'd be foolish to get booked for backchatting a referee or something stupid," said Hoddle.

"If there's a tackle to be made and it's mistimed, that's life, you can't do anything about that. They need to be aware that if they're going to be booked for something stupid, they're going to miss out on what could be, if we get the points on Wednesday, a massive game for the country," said Hoddle.

The Wembley game, while unlikely to be one that scale in sporting terms, will be a 75,000 sellout and is expected to see a massive outpouring of emotion.

Elton John's tribute song to Diana, *Candle in the Wind*, may be played and players will be wearing either a black ribbon or an armband. They have also decided to donate their match fees to charity.



Air Jordan flies solo

BEAVERTON, Ore. (AP) - Michael Jordan is about to become head of his own line of athletic shoes and clothing enterprise - to be called Brand Jordan - with the full support of Nike Inc.

It's the first time a team sports player has entered into a solo venture on such a sweeping scale.

"It's a stage in my career and in my life where I want to take control of things instead of letting someone else do it," Jordan said.

The NBA superstar has long helped sell Nike's lucrative Air Jordan line, which will fall under the new Brand Jordan division.

It will continue to feature the Jumpman logo, a silhouette of Jordan dunking.

Jordan won't invest money in the new spinoff division, and Nike refuses to discuss his contract, but he

stands ready to profit.

The Jordan brand is expected to generate more than \$250 million in gross revenues during fiscal years 1998.

The most expensive shoe sold by the new Nike division will be the \$150 Air Jordan, a totally different looking sneaker with a 3-D hologram on the heel and high-tech quilting on the sides.

Jordan has been heavily involved in pulling together the first Jordan brand collection, which debuts in November, and could ultimately become its chief executive officer when he retires from the basketball court.

"Once I'm done (playing), I think I can contribute more time," Jordan said. "It doesn't have to be a 9-10-5."

Inter learn cost of 'Dear Ronaldo'

ZURICH (AP) - Inter Milan will have to pay Barcelona an extra \$1.8 million for Brazilian football superstar Ronaldo, the world soccer governing body FIFA said yesterday.

Named as FIFA's Player of the Year in January, Ronaldo was already the world's most expensive soccer player. The decision raises to about \$28m the amount paid Barcelona for the release. This is in addition to Inter Milan's signing bonus to Ronaldo of \$14m and an annual salary of \$3m.

FIFA rejected the Italian club's appeal against having to pay more than the 4 billion pesetas (about \$26m) already given Barcelona for releasing Ronaldo from his eight-year contract.

FIFA, which takes into account a player's age, salary, potential future career and international status in calculating transfer fees, stepped in after the two clubs failed to reach an agreement on their own. The panel said its decision is final.

After transferring to Barcelona before last season, Ronaldo led the Spanish league in scoring with 34 goals, nine more than his closest rival.

Beerless in W. Ham

LONDON (Reuters) - West Ham manager Harry Redknapp has called time on beer-drinking players at the English premier league club.

Footballers in this country now are very highly paid," he said after stating West Ham had banned alcohol from their players' bar.

"We used to look at the Italians and think that was the place to be and that they were dedicated and didn't drink. I think we've got to go down the same road. Suddenly the players in this country are earning mega-money. They've got to dedicate eight, 10 or 12 years of their lives to being superfit athletes and superfit footballers," Redknapp said.

West Ham teenage defender Rio Ferdinand was last week dropped from the England team to play Moldova in a World Cup qualifier today for a drink-driving offense.

West Ham famously once lost a match after four senior players were seen drinking in a nightclub on the eve of a game.

It happened in January 1971 when West Ham crashed 4-0 to Blackpool in an FA Cup match. Four players, including England captain Bobby Moore, were punished by the club as a result of the debacle.

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Rates are valid until SEPTEMBER 30 1997.

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VEHICLES

Jerusalem

New look characterizes '97 Grand Slam season

NEW YORK (Reuters) - It was a brand new US Open this year at Flushing Meadows, an Open with a new vitality, a new stadium, new champions and a new rivalry bringing down the curtain on the 1997 Grand Slam season.

Arthur Ashe Stadium, the jewel at the heart of a \$252 million makeover of the Grand Slam venue the players had loved to hate, was fittingly christened. Its first singles championship featured an unseeded outsider who was the first black American player to fight for the US title in 39 years.

Venus Williams was a loser against women's No. 1 Martina Hingis on Sunday but tennis was a winner.

The 17-year-old with the beaded braids, who had never advanced past the quarters in 18 pro tournaments, justified years of hype and gave the game a taste of the lift Tiger Woods has given golf.

She also might have provided the 16-year-old Hingis, a spectacular 62-2 this season, with a worthy long term rival.

Venus ascending was a star gazer's delight in a frenetic fortnight that saw other fresh faces capture the spotlight.

Australian Patrick Rafter rose from his 13th seeding all the way to the men's title, taken in a pulsating serve-and-volley duel against unseeded Briton Greg Rusedski.

Rafter, with his dark good looks and dashing personality, became a big favorite of the female spectators during his charge to Grand



Patrick Rafter (Reuters)

Slam glory that included a semi-final upset of second seed Michael Chang that put him in his first major final.

But Rafter, 24, never lost his perspective, even after adding his name to Australia's Grand Slam champions list that includes the likes of Laver, Newcombe and Rosewall.

"I'll still be the same sack of crap I am," Rafter predicted about life after winning the Open.

Rusedski made it a Grand Slam sweep into the finals for the unseeded in this year's majors, following the lead of Carlos Moya of Spain (Australia Open), Brazil's Gustavo Kuerten (French Open winner) and Cedric Pioline (Wimbledon).

Rusedski, after setting a record for fastest serve in his four-set loss to Rafter, said the depth in men's tennis had thrown the major championships wide open.

"Anybody think Kuerten was going to win the French Open this year, ranked 66 in the world?" asked Rusedski, ranked 20th before the Open and 11th after to No. 3.

"I think one through 20, any one of those 20 players can win on any occasion."

Proof of that came in the fourth round when 15th seed Petr Korda of the Czech Republic sent two-time defender Pete Sampras, the world No. 1, packing.

The figure missed most by many was three-time Wimbledon and former US and Australian Open champion Boris Becker.

The charismatic Becker, 29, was expected to stage a farewell to Grand Slam tennis with his appearance here but instead pulled out just before the tournament after the death of his adviser and friend Axel Meyer-Woelden.

On the women's side, Hingis bristled at a suggestion that her achievement in becoming just the sixth woman - and youngest - to win at least three Grand Slam events in a season was diminished by the absence of the injured Steffi Graf.

"It's not my mistake she's not playing here," Hingis said after adding her first US Open title to Australian and Wimbledon crowns won this season. Only a defeat to Iva Majoli in the French Open blocked Hingis from a Grand Slam sweep.



NEW RIVALRY - US Open champion Martina Hingis, 16, and runnerup Venus Williams, 17. (Reuters)

Ballroom dancing recognized by IOC

LONDON (AP) - Ballroom dancing, rugby and surfing have cleared another hurdle in their bid to become Olympic sports.

But they'll have to compete with two dozen other sports seeking inclusion in the games.

The federations representing the three sports have received formal recognition from the International Olympic Committee, IOC sports director Gilbert Felli said yesterday.

The recognition was upgraded to permanent status during the IOC session last weekend in Lausanne, Switzerland, Felli said.

Felli stressed the recognition does not guarantee the sports will be included on the Olympic program. Dancing, rugby and surfing join a list of two dozen other sports that have already received IOC recognition.

Other recognized sports include acrobatics, mountain climbing, billiards, golf, karate, korfbal, netball, orienteering, roller skating, basque pelota, polo, bowling, racquetball, water skiing and squash.

The idea of ballroom dancing in the Olympics has been sneered at by some purists. But it has a large following and the IOC considers it a legitimate sport, comparable to ice dancing in the winter games.

"We know that it involves a lot of physical activity," Felli said.

How Israel fared

President's Cup in Basketball
 President's Cup in Basketball
 President's Cup in Basketball
 President's Cup in Basketball
 President's Cup in Basketball

Under-21 soccer side's hopes shaken

By ORI LEWIS
 The Israel under-21 soccer side's hopes of reaching the quarter-final stage of the European championships took a serious knock yesterday when Russia beat Bulgaria 2-1 to close the gap on group leaders Israel to just one point.

The Israelis, who were unbeaten in qualifying Group 5 until their 3-1 loss to Bulgaria in Sofia last month, looked to be coasting to the next stage of the competition, and were hoping for a draw between last night's two protagonists in order to keep their hopes alive.

The Israelis are lame ducks, as they have completed their fixture program, while Russia and Bulgaria have two more matches to play. After last night's result, Russia, who along with Israel are the only side who can qualify for the group, trail Israel by one point. There is one more match remaining between the same two sides, to be played in Moscow on October 10.

Only the group winners can qualify.

Some 15,000 spectators turned out for last night's match in Sofia, the Bulgarians went ahead in the seventh minute through Georgi Ivanov, but second-half strikes from Andrei Solomatini (53) and Aleksei Baharev (85) saw the visitors grab all three points.

Betar fined
 In other international soccer news concerning Israel yesterday, Betar Jerusalem were fined 2,500 Swiss francs by UEFA because racist chants were hurled by some of their supporters during the match with Sporting Lisbon at Teddy Stadium last month.

European Under-21 Championships						
Qualifying Group 5						
	P	W	D	L	F	Pts
Israel	8	5	2	1	17	17
Russia	7	5	1	1	24	16
Bulgaria	7	4	0	3	14	12
Cyprus	7	2	1	4	11	7
Luxembourg	7	0	0	7	3	0

Richie Ashburn at 70

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Former Philadelphia Phillies center fielder and Hall-of-Famer Richie Ashburn died yesterday of an apparent heart attack. He was 70.

Ashburn broadcasted the Phillies' game against the New York Mets Monday night and died in his room at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York.

Ashburn, a leading catalyst for the Phillies' 1950 pennant-winning "Whiz Kids" finished his career with the Mets in their first season, 1962, and joined the Phillies as a broadcaster the following season.

He won the batting title in 1955 with a .338 average and again in 1958, with a .350 mark. Ashburn also finished second three times.

One of the great leadoff hitters of all-time, Ashburn led the National League in walks and runs scored four times, and hits and triples three times. A defensive wizard, Ashburn tied a major-league record by leading National League outfielders in putouts nine times. The six-time All-Star also hit over 300 nine ones in his 15-year career.

The native of Tilden, Nebraska, began his career with the Phillies in 1948, winning Rookie of the Year with a .333 average, and played there until a trade to the Chicago Cubs after the 1959 season. After two years with the Cubs, he went to the expansion Mets.

In 2,189 games, he had 2,574 hits and a .308 batting average, earning election into the Hall-of-Fame in 1995.

Maple Leaf Gardens employee pleads guilty to sex assaults

TORONTO (AP) - A former equipment manager at Maple Leaf Gardens pleaded guilty Monday to sexually assaulting boys whom he enticed with hockey tickets and other favors.

Gordon Stuckless, 47, faced 22 indecent assault charges and two counts of sexual abuse. He is to be sentenced next month.

In court, Stuckless admitted to luring boys to Maple Leaf Gardens by promising free admission to Maple Leafs games, wrestling matches and concerts. He said he abused 24 boys

between the ages of 11 and 15 from 1969 to 1988.

Other assaults took place in the offices and locker room of a public school where he was an assistant gym teacher.

The scandal followed another sex abuse scandal in Canada last year. Graham James, a successful hockey coach in the country's top junior league, was sentenced to prison after admitting he sexually abused some of his players over a period of years, including former Boston Bruin forward Sheldon Kennedy.

Sports Editors: Joseph Hoffman and Ori Lewis

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NEWS

of the muse

Jubilee tour for Kibbutz Dance Company

The Kibbutz Dance Company will go to Brazil, Argentina, and Chile later this month on the first leg of an Israel Jubilee world tour...

World premiere at the Haifa Film Festival

Nana, a documentary directed by Suheir Ismail (Palestinian), Ruti Gadish (Israel), Alison King (UK) and Fabienne Bouville (France) will have its world premiere at the 1997 Haifa Film Festival...

CNN's Larry King has impromptu wedding

Popular TV talk-show host Larry King was married in a surprise ceremony in a California hospital after his star-studded formal wedding was canceled due to health problems...

It was his seventh wedding, according to Pattiz, whose Beverly Hills mansion was to have been the venue for the wedding. The twice-divorced bride is the co-inventor with Priscilla Presley...

Grammy Awards remain in NYC in 1998

The Grammy Awards will be held in New York City in 1998 for the second straight year - a victory for the Big Apple over Los Angeles in the annual rivalry to host the show...

Art films pervade Venice Film Festival

A Japanese film of life, death and violence won the coveted Golden Lion award for best picture at the recent Venice film festival. New Zealand-born director Jane Campion, who chaired the jury...

Meet MTV's older sister, VH-1

By SHAI TSUR

Probably no phrase sums up the influence of American popular culture on local society better than "the MTV generation."

Among the satellite offerings available on local cable - CNN, Star and the other non-Hebrew-speaking channels - MTV comes in second in popularity only to the Russian stations.

According to surveys funded by the regional cable systems, however, the appeal of MTV seems limited to viewers in their mid-20s and younger.

Working on this theory, the cable systems have decided to introduce VH-1, MTV's sister station. Geared toward older audiences, it will debut in Israel on September 15.

"We believe that music is an essential part of any cable package," explained Yossi Duer, general manager of the Tevel cable system, at a recent press conference.

Viacom, MTV's parent company, launched VH-1 in the US in the early 1980s to provide an outlet for music videos by artists who appealed to a viewing audience outside of MTV's 16-to-25-year-old demographic group.



Soft-core appeal: VH-1 bases its programming on music artists such as Phil Collins (left) and Sting, whose sounds appeal to more mature viewers.



one won't see. "You won't see rap videos," she said, "you won't see techno, you won't see house." While Naylor said the programmers consider this a "fairly strict policy," they are likely to make exceptions, especially later at night...

also pointed out that Seger would have had to work more than 35 years at his original job at a car factory to earn the royalties generated by his single. The decision to replace Channel V arises from limited channel space, which leaves room for only two music channels on the local cable system.

Elli Jaffe: Against all odds

By MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

On the face of it, Elli Jaffe had everything going against his becoming a musician, let alone a symphony conductor. But today, the 44-year-old Jerusalemite is one of the most respected maestros in Prague.



Jaffe thanks God for having survived polio and 'being able to stand and conduct for hours on end.'

Jaffe grew up in an Orthodox family in Jerusalem where, as a child, he suffered from polio. He did not recognize the magic of classical music until he was 19. "I heard Zubin Mehta conduct Mahler's second symphony and I realized that was what I wanted to do in life."

with quotations from the Bible and the liturgy, believes that music can help create peaceful coexistence between religious and nonreligious Jews in Israel. "I am a religious person but I admire many things among the nonreligious. I think we must discover how to give and take from each other, respect each other, and learn to live together in harmony."

End of an era for the Simta Theater

By HELEN KAYE

What's all this fuss about being a pensioner? asks Niko Nital irritably. "On the contrary, I'll go on doing what I've always done except that now I won't have to devote time to administration and promoting this place."

The Simta has also been home to some of the country's most celebrated actors who return to that venue to reroot themselves, such as Israeli Academy Award winner Moshe Ivgy.

Operating his theater on a shoestring, Nital has put on an astonishing 77 new Israeli plays in the course of his 12-year Simta Original Play Festival. He has also showcased scores of young theater artists who have gone on to make a name for themselves, such as actor/director Itzik Weingarten; playwright Shlomi Moskowitz, now a sought-after screenwriter; and award-winning theater artist Neta Plotky.

Niko Nital is most satisfied with the theater's attributes: its repertory, its reputation as a supportive framework for young artists, and for the playwrights he introduced "because we have to go on fighting for the unusual and the uncommon, or theater has no right to exist. Art is freedom, and artists need a home," Nital asserts.

Musical Nights of Autumn at the Bible Lands Museum Jerusalem. Welcome the new concert season with an all-new program - from classical to klezmer - baroque to jazz and everything in between. Saturday night Sept. 13 "Good Time Jazz". Incomparable saxophonist, Jacques Sany with Ariv Rakovsky - trumpet, trombone & vocals, George Tashner - piano, Pancho Blumenzweig - bass, Rami Hann - drums.

BATTLE - York, 332; Cleveland, 23; RUNS - Gr Minnesota, 110; Basked, 1; RB - Griffo; FTThomas, CI New York, 10; HITS - Gar Grifley Jr, 50 Chicago, 106; HOME R Cleveland, 3; 33; Buhner, 1; STOLEN Toronto, 47; AFRONQUEZ, PITCHING Toronto, 21-5, 782, 3.3C Pettito, New STRIKED York, 215; 168; CFINLE SAVES - 32; Wetteles Anahelm, 2

BATTLE - Angeles, 3; 325; MAGR RUNS - 106; Bonds Piazza, Lo RB - Griffo; Gwynn, St Francisco, 1; HITS - C 174; Boggs Casiano, C HOME F 38; Gallarr San Franc STOLEN Oesthede San Oeoc PITCHIL Francisco 6, 739, 2; 4.22; Pari STRIKI Atlanta, 2; AnBones SAVES Angeles, 33; Nen, Texas 0 Detroit 2 Witt, Gu I, Rodrig and Cas 11-10-1 Detroit, 1

Battimo Cleveland Karmun To Nath Assonn Mornar W-Ast Sv-Me Games Oakland Minnes Telphex A Small D Miles 2-5-1 Minnes Seattle Kansas Oltan Charrt Haney Macka Oltan CDavi (1) Anah Toror Da D Liza A Chaw (5); Person, Daal (5), Quantin (7), Presac (8), Escobar (9) and B.Santiago. W-Plesac 1-3, L James 4-5, Sv-Karchner 3-1, Sv-UD-Juarez (4), HRs-Milwaukee, Jis Valentin (16), Cirilo (9), Chicago, F.Thomas 2 (53).

SMOTHERED - in a 16-yard pass from QB Elvis Grbac in second-quarter action.

SMOTHERED - in a 16-yard pass from QB Elvis Grbac in second-quarter action.

CRITICS' CHOICE

THEATER

HELEN KAYE

In Gefilte Fish, gifted actress Orna Rothberg sings in Yiddish and chats with the audience in Hebrew. It's a lively cabaret act that ties together her very Israeli personality with her Eastern European heritage. Opens tonight at Habimah Heineken Club at 8:30.

In his official swan song for the Sima, director Niko Ntai (he's retiring from management) has adapted and directed Rainer Werner Fassbinder's early play Ha'eloyonim (Pre-paradise Sorry Now is the original title), a fictional look at the sado-masochistic relationship that developed between serial murderers Ian Brady and Myra Hindley. Tonight at the Sima in Jafa at 9 p.m. (Hebrew).



Orna Rothberg sings in her Yiddish cabaret act 'Gefilte Fish.'

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

***** BEAN — British comic Rowan Atkinson has lopsided eyes, big flaps for ears, almost no chin, and a sharp beak of a nose that slopes to a perilous point. His jaggedly disproportionate features seem expressly designed to help him make funny faces, and in the new film based on his popular TV character, he has ample opportunity to do just that. Bit for bit, Bean is constructed of some of the zaniest and most delightful physical comedy of the last several years, although attempts to recount this humor in words ("and then he puts a turkey in the microwave...") are bound to come up short, reducing the quirky comic logic of Bean's bearing to a laundry list of predictable and abrupt-sounding gags. Most of these routines, though, build gradually, ingeniously, through a carefully choreographed progression of actions and reactions, often of Bean to himself. Directed by Mel (The Tall Guy) Smith, and written by Richard Curtis and Robin Swicord (both veterans of Mr. Bean, the film takes shape as a hyperbolic whirlwind tour of L.A., where the very English Mr. Bean seems even more profoundly out of place than usual. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. General audiences.)

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

There are only two more opportunities to hear the Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba opening concert in which music director Uri Mayer conducts his musicians in Schubert's fourth ("Tragic") symphony and Josef Bardanashvili's Elegy (Psalm 22). The Georgian-born composer, who immigrated to Israel in 1955, describes the piece as "a tonal work written in the basso ostinato style. In spite of its restrained tones, this elegy is deeply expressive and comprises all the layers of human emotions. The work reflects an original primordial human being's spiritual experience."

Brazilian-born pianist Cristina Ortiz plays Beethoven's third piano concerto tonight at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem and tomorrow at the Tel Aviv Museum. 8:30. The orchestra then changes programs and opens its Jewels of the Opera season with excerpts from Rossini's delightful comic romp L'italiana in Algeri. Mayer is once again on the podium. He will be joined by mezzo-soprano Galina Malinsky, tenor Felix Livshitz, and bass-baritone Yuri Kissin. Saturday (9) and next Tuesday (8:30) in Beersheba.

TV

24:50 On the Edge of the Shell

18:30 Local Events

19:00 The Young and the Restless

18:40 Beverly Hills 90210

20:25 Tune of Time

12:50 Profile

21:35 Newsradio

22:00 Yair Lapid Live at 10

22:30 Love Story with Yossi Sages

23:00 Scribble

23:25 Real Shoes

Diary — erotic

00:00 The Streets of San Francisco

00:50 Barnaby Jones

13:00 Quiet Victory (1988) — a football player with a degenerative disease

14:40 Seeing Stars

15:30 An Element of Truth (1995) (pt)

16:15 The Trials of Jane (1995) — two women whose husbands kidnapped their children join forces

18:00 News in the Cinema

18:50 Playing Dangerous (1993) — a woman's sale over the house of a diplomat in search of a secret. With David Miller

19:25 Murder in a College Town (1996)

22:00 Rudy (1983) — entertaining, factual account of Rudy Ruessiger, a workaholic boy who through sheer perseverance managed to earn his way through college

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23:00 The 700 Club

7:00 TV Shop

14:30 Body Electric

15:00 Basic Training

16:00 The 700 Club

18:00 Larry King

17:00 Garbet

17:23 Family Challenge

18:10 Beethoven

18:00 News in the Ball

19:00 Showbiz

19:30 World News Tonight (Arabic)

20:00 Best Strangers

20:25 Newswatch

20:50 Movie: The Gift of Love

22:50 Urban Peasant

23:00 Movie: The 700 Club

18:00 Cartoons

19:30 Edge of the Cliff

17:30 From Day to Day

18:00 The Tyrant

19:00 News in Arabic

19:30 Documentary in Hebrew

20:00 News

20:45 Scent of Mint

22:50 Cliff Richard

23:00 Entertainment Now

23:45 Hollywood Chronicles

15:30 Echo Point

18:00 Mathematics for Begu

18:30 Face of the Earth

17:00 Bobby — Arabic

17:30 My Dear Brother — Arabic

18:00 Dites Moi Tout

18:30 Tastes

19:00 Religions of the World

19:30 Point of View

20:00 A New Evening

20:30 Zornit

21:00 The New 20th Century — part 11: The Fall of the Berlin Wall

22:00 Two to Tango — family matters

23:00 Onedim Line

17:15 Chiquititas

18:00 Sweet Valley

18:30 Treasure Island

19:00 Helen and the Boys

19:35 Three's Company

20:45 Roseanne

21:10 Cosby Show

21:40 Different World

20:45 Roseanne

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PRIME TIME TV

Table with 8 columns (1-8) and 8 rows (19:30-23:00) listing TV programs and channels.

MOVIES

18:30 Quiet Victory (1988) — a football player with a degenerative disease

14:40 Seeing Stars

15:30 An Element of Truth (1995) (pt)

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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS: 1 Grumble having to knock back two tots (6), 4 Had a title at last? (8), 8 Rarely floods models to disarray (6), 9 Slow-mover set out to include a load (8), 10 Posted another line to the guard (8), 11 A gun exploded by attorney in the country (6), 12 Peter place article on the temple (8), 15 Oppressive leader to difficultly ran through (6), 15 Gave what was due to help young deg out (4,2), 18 Figures ecocoutered previously, as it is said (8), 20 Wave put into one's hair (6), 21 Blackleg promises to pay the plant (8), 23 Reman woman who had most of the good fortune became irate (8), 24 Well-known fellow had a tailless rodent (6), 25 A cent tip could be a very small allowance (8), 26 Can Aggleitan novice withdraw? (6), DOWN: 1 Prophet caused some confusion on Sunday (5), 2 Intervened, about time, it was thought (9), 3 Cameron's rocky love affair (7), 16 I will take something round the Channel Islands although it is illegal (7), 17 Very strict person transported by up-train (7), 19 Trade that's constantly on the increase (7), 22 Sarah is consuming fibril (5)

SOLUTIONS section with crossword grids and answers.

QUICK CROSSWORD

QUICK CROSSWORD section with crossword grids and answers.

MOVIES

18:30 Quiet Victory (1988) — a football player with a degenerative disease

14:40 Seeing Stars

15:30 An Element of Truth (1995) (pt)

16:15 The Trials of Jane (1995) — two women whose husbands kidnapped their children join forces

18:00 News in the Cinema

18:50 Playing Dangerous (1993) — a woman's sale over the house of a diplomat in search of a secret. With David Miller

19:25 Murder in a College Town (1996)

22:00 Rudy (1983) — entertaining, factual account of Rudy Ruessiger, a workaholic boy who through sheer perseverance managed to earn his way through college

22:30 Rudy (1983) — entertaining, factual account of Rudy Ruessiger, a workaholic boy who through sheer perseverance managed to earn his way through college

23:00 The 700 Club

7:00 TV Shop

14:30 Body Electric

15:00 Basic Training

16:00 The 700 Club

18:00 Larry King

17:00 Garbet

17:23 Family Challenge

18:10 Beethoven

18:00 News in the Ball

19:00 Showbiz

19:30 World News Tonight (Arabic)

20:00 Best Strangers

20:25 Newswatch

20:50 Movie: The Gift of Love

22:50 Urban Peasant

23:00 Movie: The 700 Club

18:00 Cartoons

19:30 Edge of the Cliff

17:30 From Day to Day

18:00 The Tyrant

19:00 News in Arabic

19:30 Documentary in Hebrew

20:00 News

20:45 Scent of Mint

22:50 Cliff Richard

23:00 Entertainment Now

23:45 Hollywood Chronicles

15:30 Echo Point

18:00 Mathematics for Begu

18:30 Face of the Earth

17:00 Bobby — Arabic

17:30 My Dear Brother — Arabic

18:00 Dites Moi Tout

18:30 Tastes

19:00 Religions of the World

19:30 Point of View

20:00 A New Evening

20:30 Zornit

21:00 The New 20th Century — part 11: The Fall of the Berlin Wall

22:00 Two to Tango — family matters

23:00 Onedim Line

17:15 Chiquititas

18:00 Sweet Valley

18:30 Treasure Island

19:00 Helen and the Boys

19

AIDS victims call for boycott of Leumit

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Amharic-language weekly, *Pana*, urged readers yesterday to drop their membership in the Leumit health fund because it won't pay for drugs that can keep AIDS patients and HIV carriers alive.

According to the Health Ministry, about 120 Ethiopian immigrants require the medication, which is made up of a so-called "cocktail" of drugs, including AZT. The dosage costs \$1,200 a month per patient. The treatment has proven effective in at least 40% of cases, by significantly lowering HIV virus blood levels.

Of those who need the medicine, 90% belong to Leumit. But Leumit does not include the drugs in its basket of services, as the Health Ministry does not require it to do so.

Writing in the newspaper, MK Adisu Massala of Labor, wrote that given Leumit's policy, the country's 62,000 Ethiopian immigrants had no choice but to boycott the fund.

He also noted that everyone has the right to switch health funds up to twice a year.

"When immigrants came in Operation Solomon, Kupat Holim Leumit applied to a public tender to establish community clinics at caravan sites, so that many of the immigrants would join and remain in that health fund," Massala, an Ethiopian immigrant, wrote. "Now the health fund has decided to abandon these people and refuse to give them the health care they need... Leumit is risking lives."

Leumit's chairman, MK Avraham Hershson of Likud responded that "our heart is torn between the requirements of conscience to help patients and budget constraints that don't allow us to cover the costs."

He called on the Health Ministry to cover the costs of expensive medications that aren't in the basket of health services.

Hershson also wrote a letter demanding that Health Minister Yehoshua Mazza immediately come up with a solution.

Ministry spokesman Dubi Ben-Ami said that it can't force health funds to pay for the drugs. He also accused the Treasury of refusing to add 14 vital drugs to the basket of health services provided by the government.

Archeological site linked to Paul

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

Archeologists believe they have uncovered the building in Caesarea in which Paul, the greatest figure of the early Christian church, was incarcerated for two years before being sent to Rome for trial in 60 CE.

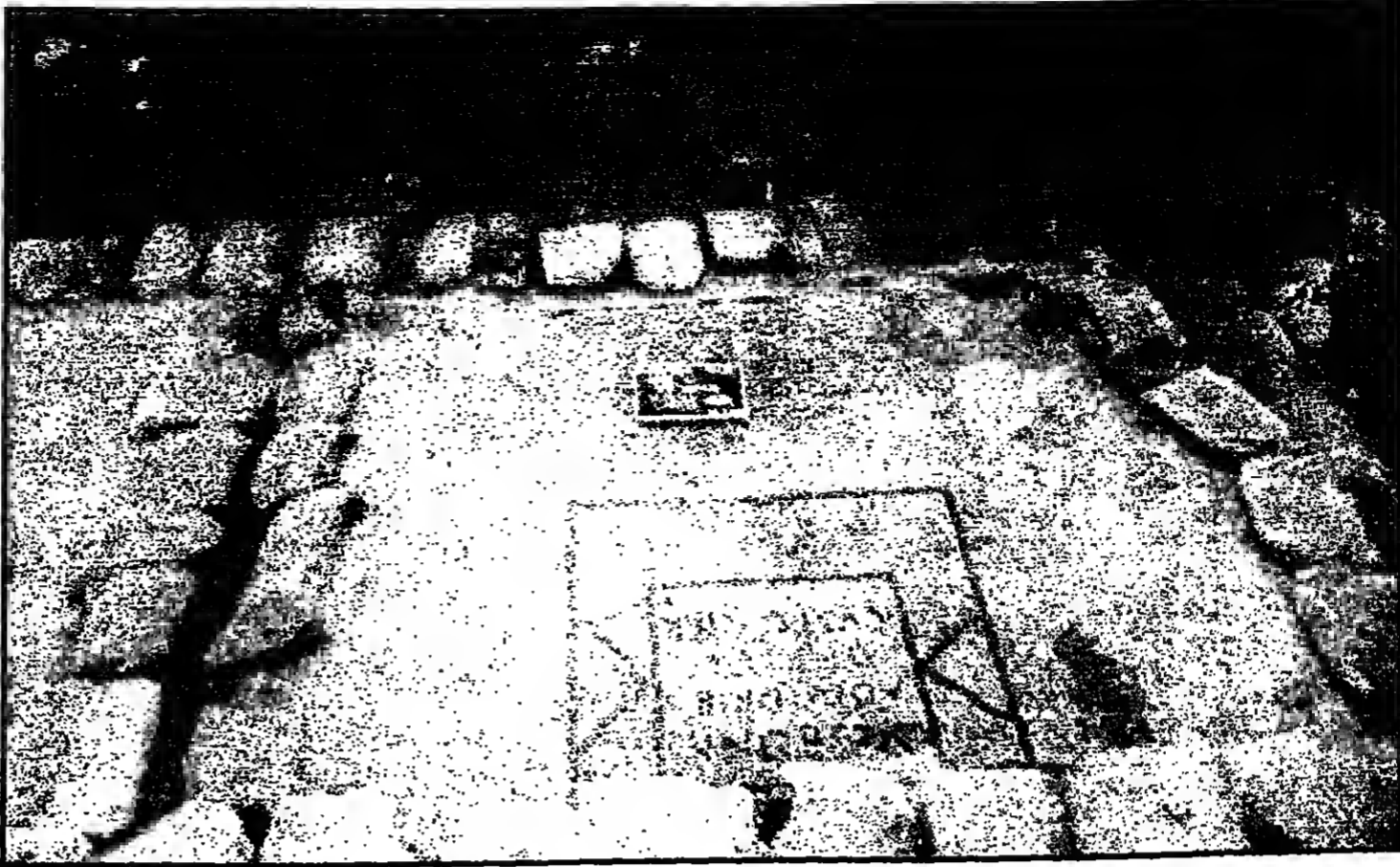
A building complex covering 15,000 square meters has been identified as the Roman government seat in the 1st century CE, when Caesarea was capital of Judea.

According to Yosef Porat of the Israel Antiquities Authority, who headed this summer's excavations, the complex included a large palace with a luxurious bathroom and administrative offices. The site is located between the Roman amphitheater and hippodrome, close to the sea.

A mosaic floor in one of the rooms uncovered in the office wing bore the Latin inscription "...adviorib(us) officii custodiar," translated by Prof. Leah de Segni of the Hebrew University as "...I came to this office - I shall be secure." Prof. Werner Eck of the University of Koln suggested that the room served as the office of a unit connected with security.

Porat said that the office wing of the complex likely housed the audience hall into which Paul was brought for a hearing before the Roman procurator. The Jewish leadership in Jerusalem had demanded Paul's trial after he preached "transgressions of the law" on the Temple Mount and brought gentiles into the Temple. As a Roman citizen, Paul could, and did, demand trial before a Roman court.

"I appeal to Caesar," he said,



Archeologists think the room outlined by this mosaic floor, in the Caesarea complex identified as the Roman government seat in the 1st century CE, is where St. Paul was held as an early Christian. The inscription reads: 'I came to this office - I shall be secure.'

according to Acts of the Apostles.

A change in procurators apparently led to his extended incarceration in Caesarea before being shipped off to Rome.

Only about 60 percent of the site has been excavated thus far, said Porat, and no room has yet been identified as the audience hall into which Paul was brought.

The excavation began almost two decades ago when its full size was not yet known. It was initially presumed to be Herod's seaside palace but excavations subsequently showed it to post-date Herod by a generation.

Porat said he sees the site becoming a major attraction for Christian pilgrimage in the future. Budget cuts have meanwhile halted further excavations.

Paul's epistles laid the foundations for Christian theology. Born as Saul, the son of a Jew in Tarsus, he studied in Jerusalem with Rabbi Gamliel and assisted at the martyrdom of St. Stephen.

His conversion to the religion he had persecuted came on the road to Damascus. According to Acts, he heard a voice asking "why do you persecute me?" When he asked who was speaking, the reply was "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest."

Paul's fate after being sent to Rome is unclear. By one account, he was martyred during the persecutions initiated by Nero.

Hunger striker demands Lebanon pullout

By ALLISON KAPLAN SOMMER

Yoram Kastiel staked out a lonely post yesterday on the sidewalk opposite the Defense Ministry, as he launched a hunger strike calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Next to a hand-lettered sign reading, "I'm hunger striking to force the defense minister to do the right thing and get the IDF out of Lebanon," Kastiel sipped water, chain-smoked, and listened to the jeers coming from the Tel Aviv commuters heading past him on

Rehov Kaplan towards the Ayalon Highway.

"Sure, I'm getting some criticism," admitted Kastiel, a lanky, tanned, blue-eyed man in a T-shirt and faded jeans. "But for every negative comment I hear, I'm getting at least three people telling me that they are supportive of what I'm doing."

Numerous young soldiers serving in the army headquarters compound glanced at Kastiel and his sign as they passed, but most walked by without comment. The 34-year-old is a veteran of the

Lebanon War, in which he was wounded. Five years after his injury, he wrote a book critical of the presence in Lebanon entitled, *We've Gone Out of Our Minds - When are We Going to Return?*

Despite his authorship of the book, he insists, he is not generally politically active - "I was never one to go to demonstrations. I'm just a regular citizen."

Divorced, Kastiel lives in Azur and earns his living trimming trees and shrubbery. He says it was February's helicopter disaster, and then last week's botched commando raid, that pushed him into

beginning a hunger strike.

"All of these years have passed since I served in Lebanon and nothing has changed. We've lost 1,500 soldiers and the Katyushas are still falling, and the politicians do nothing. They pay more attention to the question of who gets what ministry than this problem in Lebanon."

"After the helicopter disaster, I heard David Levy on the radio talking about how much the situation pains him. Well, he's been saying for the past 15 years that it's pained him, but what has he done? I feel as if I don't do something like this

hunger strike, my children are going to have to serve in Lebanon."

Although he decided to undertake the hunger strike alone, Kastiel has called on other IDF veterans to join him.

By mid-afternoon, Kastiel's loneliness was relieved somewhat by Illi Kaufman, a representative of Women for a Withdrawal from Lebanon. She said that her group had gathered signatures on a petition of support for Kastiel.

Kaufman says that recent events have created grass-roots momentum "for the cause of withdrawing from Lebanon."

PA tells its supreme court not to intervene in professor's arrest

By STEVE RODAN

The Palestinian Supreme Court was told by Palestinian security officials yesterday not to intervene in the arrest of a Gaza lecturer. The man has been held for more than two months after questioning his students about corruption in the Palestinian Authority.

A representative of the attorney-general, Ahmed Siam, told the court that Al-Azhar University Prof. Fathi Subuh had been investigated and charged by a state security court. He said the Supreme Court does not have

jurisdiction, because the case has been classified as a security matter.

Siam did not elaborate on the security charges, but added that Attorney-General Fayez Abu Rahme had signed two requests for an extension of Subuh's detention.

Minutes later, the three-judge panel adjourned and postponed the continuation of the hearing for another month.

Human rights activists pointed to yesterday's hearing as the latest example of how Palestinian civil courts have become submissive to PA security authorities. Subuh was arrested on July 2

after he gave his English class a test that included questions on corruption in the PA and the university, which is aligned with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat. His attorney, Raji Sourani, said that since the detention, Subuh, 43, has been held without charges and without the right to an attorney's visit.

Palestinian security authorities have refused to respond to a High Court order for them to explain Subuh's detention.

"There are no charges here, just talk," Sourani told the judges. "The laws were not respected in this case."

Although Subuh's charges were not listed in yesterday's hearing, Abu Rahme said he is accused of "dealing with Israel and other offenses, including mistreating girl students."

Sourani, who also heads the Palestinian Center for Human Rights, told the three judges that his client was accused of treason during his interrogations.

At the same time, the attorney said, Abu Rahme had promised that Subuh would be released immediately. Subuh himself was not brought to the largely empty courtroom, which was attended by a human rights activist, Subuh's wife, and a university colleague.

There were no representatives of the Palestinian press in the courtroom.

"Were there charges filed?" Supreme Court Judge Radwan Agha asked.

"Yes," Siam replied.

Sourani stood up. "This is a surprise," he said. "I have asked the prosecutor for a file and this is the first time I've been told that there is a file."

Later, Abu Rahme appeared hesitant to define his role in the Subuh case, but acknowledged that he had signed the detention orders.

Asked to explain his representative's argument that the Supreme Court does not have jurisdiction when he signed an extension of Subuh's detention, Abu Rahme said even though the Gaza professor is now in a civilian jail, he is still under the authority of the state security court.

Bassam Eid, the only human rights activist attending the hearing, said the Subuh case reflects the intimidation of the Palestinian courts by security authorities. "The judges don't really know what to do in this case," he said.

Winning cards and numbers

In yesterday's daily Chance drawings, the winning cards were the queen of spades, king of hearts, 8 of diamonds, and 8 of clubs, and the jack of spades, 8 of hearts, 10 of diamonds, and ace of clubs. The winning numbers in yesterday's weekly Lotto drawing were 11, 19, 24, 27, 42, and 48. The supplementary number was 8.

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